



October 15, 2019

In late summer 2019, Tides Inc was honored to receive an award through New Hanover County from the National Association of Counties (NACo), a national organization whose mission is to strengthen America's counties.

New Hanover County received nine awards this year, which brings the total awards for New Hanover County to 29 since 2016. County Manager Chris Coudriet says "That is a remarkable accomplishment and it shows how the county's innovative work is making an impact. Our employees and these programs serve as models for others to emulate across the country."

According to the official county press release, "Each year, NACo's Achievement Awards Program recognizes innovative county government programs that enhance services for residents."

Other programs to receive recognition through this 2019 award include:

- **Community Recovery Resource Center:** created immediately after Hurricane Florence, the resource center provided a place for residents to get the resources and supplies they needed, in a compassionate atmosphere focused on the citizen.
- **Customer Online Access Services Tool:** COAST is a land development software system that was implemented this year with the customer at the center, making it even easier to do business with the county.
- **Drug Positive Infant Protocol:** this collaborative approach ensures Social Services and community partners respond to the birth of a drug-positive infant in a way that proactively helps the child and family.
- **Landfill Leachate Treatment System:** the county is the only public landfill in the state to use a reverse osmosis filtration system, and it is effectively filtering landfill leachate and ensuring the county remains a good environmental steward.
- **Opioid Public Service Announcements:** a series of six videos, produced by the county, bring awareness to the opioid epidemic and provide help and hope to those affected by the crisis.
- **Pre-K Pilot Expansion:** this county-funded program adds 3 new Pre-K classrooms to help at-risk children in our community be prepared as they enter Kindergarten.