



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 20, 2023

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Columbia County Named County of the Quarter by Florida Association of Counties

*Columbia County's participation in the FAC Business Solutions Program
earns statewide recognition for cost savings.*

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Columbia County was recently named County of the Quarter by the [Florida Association of Counties](#) (FAC) for its active engagement in the [FAC Business Solutions Program](#). Columbia County leverages six of nine available business solutions to meet its need for flexible, cost-effective professional services.

The Business Solutions Program offers a distinct benefit to smaller rural counties like Columbia. Business solution partners often leverage the participation of larger counties to provide competitive rates and reduced fees for all counties. In some cases, counties can also reduce the amount of upfront staff time required in the procurement process because each business solution is vetted by FAC, used by other Florida counties, or, in some cases, created by counties themselves.

One such business solution is the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT). Through FAC's partnership with the Florida League of Cities, Florida counties and cities can access bundled coverage for property insurance and workers' compensation. Columbia County works with FMIT and FACT – the Florida Association of Counties Trust – to save money by protecting against liability risk.

Columbia County also participates in business solutions that pass savings directly to citizens. Over the past two decades, the National Association of Counties (NaCO) Live Healthy Prescription, Health & Dental Discount Program has saved more than \$713 million for residents in counties across the nation, including Columbia County. The program provides deep discounts on prescription drugs for people and their pets, a 24/7 telemedicine service, and savings on walk-in clinics.



Some private companies have also met the eligibility requirements to become business solution partners, including Nationwide Insurance. At no cost to the county, Nationwide’s Deferred Compensation Program helps employees save for the future while reducing their current tax burden. Adopting this program is one of the ways Columbia County saves on costs while staying competitive in the job market.

“Our Business Solutions Program is designed to be accessible to all counties, big or small,” explains FAC Executive Director Virginia DeLegal. “We continually evaluate the effectiveness of programs and survey members about their needs. What makes these solutions valuable for local government is that our partners understand the operations and constraints of Florida counties.”

For more information about the Florida Association of Counties and FAC Business Solutions Program, visit fl-counties.com/fac-programs.

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About the Florida Association of Counties

For more than 85 years, the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) has represented the diverse interests of Florida’s counties. FAC is the only association representing all 67 Florida counties – bringing together the collective experience and knowledge of 377 county commissioners and the support of thousands of county professional staff. Through FAC, counties are better able to serve not only their communities but the entire state of Florida.