

CCAP UPDATE

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

THE VOICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

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CCAP's 2026 President - Joe Kantz



Meet Snyder County Commissioner Joe Kantz, CCAP's incoming 2026 President.

Now in his fifth term as commissioner, Joe also serves as Business and Development Manager for the North Shore Railroad and is a PA Licensed Auctioneer. A dedicated advocate for his county, he serves on numerous boards that deliver essential community services.

Joe has been an active leader within CCAP, contributing his expertise as a member of the Board of Directors since 2013.

He has served as the CCAP Treasurer for six years and on the CCAP Resolutions & Policy, Elections Reform, Agriculture, Energy, Land Use and Environment, County Governance, Finance, Strategic Planning and Personnel Committees. Joe most recently led the CCAP Personnel Committee through the hiring process of CCAP's new Executive Director, Dr. Kyle Kopko.

In 2020, he was appointed by the Governor to the Election Law Advisory Board, further reflecting his commitment to strengthening county government and fighting for Election Integrity.

Joe lives in Selinsgrove with his wife and daughter on the family farm that has been in his family since 1935.

2026 Legislative Priorities to be Announced

On **Wednesday, January 28 at 9:00 a.m.**, the CCAP Board of Directors will host a press conference at the State Capitol to announce the association's 2026 Legislative Priorities.

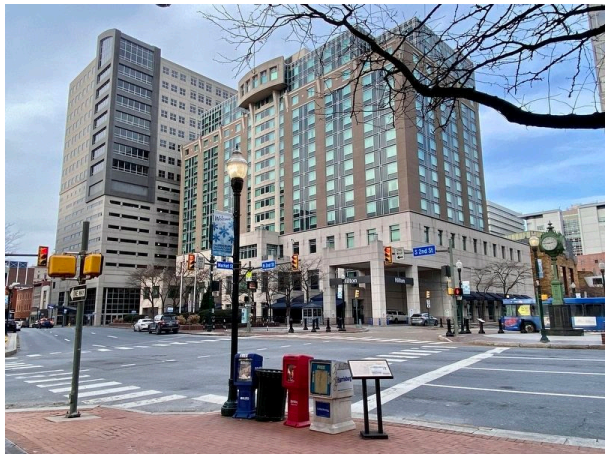
County leaders from across the commonwealth will be on hand to highlight the priorities identified by CCAP members at the 2025 Fall Conference.



The press conference will take place on the Capitol Rotunda steps with county officials

representing every region of Pennsylvania.

State leaders and legislators are encouraged to join CCAP to learn more about the 2026 legislative priorities and the issues facing counties statewide.



CCAP Spring Conference

March 15-17, 2026

Hilton Harrisburg

[Register today](#) for CCAP's Spring Conference - also known as the "Legislative Conference" - and participate in programming of educational and professional value.

Highlights of this year's conference include:

Legislative Reception: Returning for 2026, this reception offers invaluable face time with members of Pennsylvania's General Assembly. The CCAP Friend of County Government Award will also be announced during the reception.

Hill Day at the Capitol: CCAP members can take advantage of this opportunity to be formally recognized on the House Floor and schedule time to discuss CCAPs legislative priorities with legislators.

The Spring Conference does not accommodate a trade show and booth space is not available, but Vendors and Sponsors are invited and encouraged to register to gain access to educational sessions and other conference events.

Attendance at the Spring Conference for Associate and Non-Associate Members is 1 p.m. Sunday through 11:30 a.m. Tuesday.

For the full conference schedule, sponsorship opportunities and additional information click the link below.

Conference Details →

SBHE Asking for Public Comment

Pennsylvania's State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) has published a draft strategic plan titled **Driving a Prosperous Pennsylvania: A Statewide Agenda for Higher Education** that will provide direction and coordination to support colleges and universities to fully meet the needs of the Commonwealth.

SBHE is seeking public input to further strengthen the plan before it is finalized and adopted by the Board.

Both organizations and individuals are invited to weigh in during the public comment period, which closes on **January 20, 2026**.

[SBHE Public Survey →](#)

USDA Rural Development Accepting Applications

USDA Rural Development is now accepting applications for FY 2026 funding. Public bodies and nonprofit organizations located in municipalities with populations of 20,000 or fewer are encouraged to explore whether their infrastructure or equipment projects may be eligible.

USDA’s Community Facilities Program, offers direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants to support essential public services and facilities in rural communities.

[Click here for more Information →](#)

America250PA Mobile Unit at the PA Farm Show

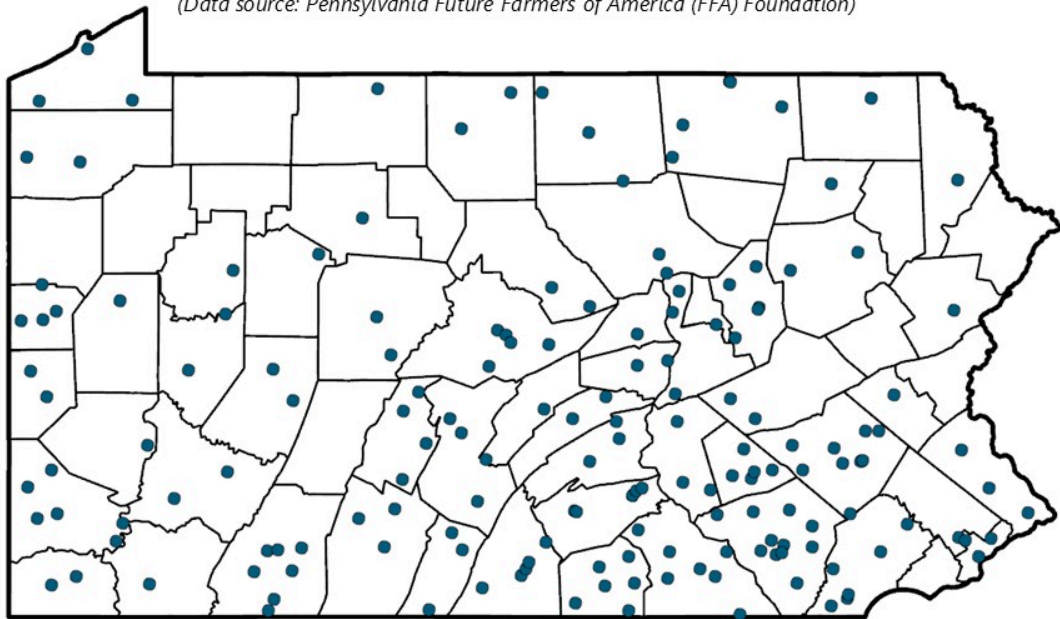
Several members of the CCAP team volunteered this week at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, staffing the America250PA mobile unit—a rolling celebration of the nation’s 250th birthday and Pennsylvania’s central role in the American story.

The mobile unit is a custom-built experience on wheels designed to bring the Semiquincentennial directly to Pennsylvanians. From immersive games to meaningful storytelling visitors of every age can experience the shared past, present and future of the state.



Location of Pennsylvania FFA Student Chapters, 2026

(Data source: Pennsylvania Future Farmers of America (FFA) Foundation)



SAVE THE DATE!!

2026 CCAP COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE:
May 13-14, Wyndham Garden Boalsburg (Centre County)

2026 CCAP ANNUAL CONFERENCE:
August 2-5, Kalahari Resort (Monroe County)

2026 CCAP FALL CONFERENCE:
November 22 - 24, The Hotel Hershey (Dauphin County)

CCAP and PA County Career Opportunities

You'll find CCAP and county government career opportunities at the PA County Job Center.

CCAP is hiring an **Opioid Trust Liaison** to support the work of the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust.

Is a career opportunity available in your county? Submit a request to have your listing on CCAP's PA County Job Center.

PA County Job Center →

Have something you would like featured in CCAP Update?
Contact Kim McDonnell at kmcdonnell@pacounties.org



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