



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County Department of Public Health
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Teen Health Now Chapter Formed in Cumberland County

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – A new discussion group for Cumberland County teenagers has been formed with the goal of preventing teen pregnancy through peer-to-peer outreach. The Cumberland County Teen Health Now Chapter will hold its first meetings Feb. 12 and Feb. 26 at 5 p.m. in the community room of the Tera Gardens housing complex at 233 Law Rd. The group is open to youth ages 12 to 19.

“Cumberland County Teen Health Now was formed to help make a difference by getting teenagers involved in their communities and talking with their peers about reproductive health issues facing them,” said Phyllis McLymore, a public health education specialist with the Cumberland County Department of Public Health.

The Cumberland County chapter was formed by the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign of North Carolina, a nonprofit group dedicated to preventing teen pregnancy.

Cumberland County ranks 17th in teen pregnancy out of the state’s 100 counties, McLymore said. In 2011, there were 673 reported teen pregnancies in the county. In addition, Cumberland ranks first in the state in gonorrhea cases and seventh in HIV cases in the state.

“Based on Cumberland County’s rates of teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS and STDs, we were considered to be a county of need by the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign,” McLymore said.

Cumberland County Teen Health Now will hold regular meetings every other Tuesday each month. At the group’s first meetings, teenagers will help identify local trends and plan a message and media campaign to help prevent HIV/AIDS, STDs and teen pregnancy.

For more information, contact McLymore at 910-433-3894 or email pmclymore@co.cumberland.nc.us.

For additional information about the Cumberland County Department of Public Health, please call 910-433-3600 or visit with someone at the information desk. Comments are welcome and can be submitted on our website at www.co.cumberland.nc.us/health/comment_form.aspx. The Health Department is located at 1235 Ramsey St. in Fayetteville.

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