FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Health Contact: Phyllis McLymore Public Health Educator Telephone: 910-433-3894

E-mail: pmclymore@co.cumberland.nc.us

National HIV Testing Day

Health Department Offers Free HIV Testing June 29

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Department of Public Health will participate in a National HIV Testing Day event on Saturday, June 29, from 12 to 3 p.m. at the historic Orange Street School at 600 Orange St. Free, confidential, rapid HIV testing will be provided, with results available in less than half an hour. The event will also feature food, fun, entertainment and health education.

Anyone who has shared needles or engaged in unprotected sex is encouraged to get tested at the event, which is sponsored by the Health Department, Cumberland County HIV Task Force and McGregor's Traveling Angels Ministry.

"We want people to come and get tested so they will definitely know their status," said Phyllis McLymore, a public health educator with the Health Department. Cumberland County ranks fifth in the state in syphilis/HIV cases; first in gonorrhea; and third in chlamydia cases.

The Health Department offers free HIV testing Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and offers evening clinic hours on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. No appointment is necessary. The Health Department also offers STD testing during the same hours, but appointments are required for STD testing. Call 910-433-3600 to make an appointment. The Health Department is located at 1235 Ramsey St.

For more information about HIV testing or National HIV Testing Day, contact Phyllis McLymore at 910-433-3894 or pmclymore@co.cumberland.nc.us; or call Sherri McGregor, CEO of McGregor's Traveling Angels Ministry, at 910-977-3558.

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.