



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Event March 10

FAYETTEVILLE – The public is invited to the first annual National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day event March 10 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Old Wilmington Road Neighborhood Resource Center at 229 Lincoln Dr. The event will focus on the impact of HIV/AIDS on the county's female population.

Women and girls will share testimony about surviving and living after a positive HIV diagnosis. Information will also be provided on treatment, abstinence and the availability of barrier methods to prevent HIV infections. According to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, the HIV/AIDS diagnosis among black females is 31.9 per 100,000, which is 19 times higher than that of white females.

“The HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to be a threat to young women and girls, particularly women of color,” said Department of Public Health Communicable Disease Health Educator Phyllis McLymore. “Given the disproportionate representation shown in the statistics, emphasis on testing, treatment and education are necessary in helping women develop healthier behaviors and reduce the risk of HIV transmission.”

The Cumberland County Department of Public Health, City of Fayetteville and Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority are hosting the event. National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an initiative of the Office of Women's Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

For more information, call Phyllis McLymore at 910-433-3894.

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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