

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Health

Contact: Sharon Batten, WIC Director

Telephone: 910-433-3741

Email: <a href="mailto:sbatten@co.cumberland.nc.us">sbatten@co.cumberland.nc.us</a>

## March of Dimes Donates \$3,000 To Health Department

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Department of Public Health received a \$3,000 grant from the March of Dimes to purchase books for first-time mothers in the Pregnancy Care Management and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) programs. The Health Department applied for the grant in 2014.

The books, "Baby Basics" and "Hola Bebe," provide a comprehensive month-by-month guide for a healthy pregnancy and cover economic, social psychological and cultural issues facing low-income pregnant women. Topics range from applying for Medicaid to the stages of labor. The books, which are designed to increase awareness and education about the importance of early and consistent prenatal care related to a healthy pregnancy, stress the importance of following medical providers' recommendations for care to reduce low birth rate, preterm delivery and health disparities in outcomes.

"We are excited to have received the March of Dimes grant and to be able to offer these books to first-time moms offering them a way to document their pregnancy experiences, their prenatal and WIC appointments, and questions for their doctor," said Sharon Batten, WIC Director. "The books provide a wealth of accurate health information regarding pregnancy and address many of the concerns of a first-time mom. Our moms are delighted to receive the books."

The Child Health Clinic is located in the first floor of the Health Department, 1235 Ramsey St. For more information, call 910-433-3741 or go to <u>co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx</u>.

The March of Dimes is a nonprofit organization that works to improve the health of mothers and babies.

If you would like more information about the Cumberland County Department of Public Health's programs and services, health-related data, or community resources, please call 910-433-3600 or visit with someone at the information desk, or visit our website at <a href="co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx#">co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx#</a>. Comments are welcome and can be submitted on our website at <a href="co.cumberland.nc.us/health/comment\_form.aspx">co.cumberland.nc.us/health/comment\_form.aspx</a>. The Health Department is located at 1235 Ramsey St. in Fayetteville.