## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 9, 2016

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## **Institute for Community Leadership Accepting Applications**

(FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.) The Institute for Community Leadership is accepting applications for the 2016-2017 class. The program is designed to develop and empower community members, especially those not previously identified, who are able and willing to commit to leadership and service roles in addressing important issues in Fayetteville and Cumberland County.

The institute will start its 13<sup>th</sup> year in September and is a joint effort sponsored by the City of Fayetteville, Cumberland County Government, Cumberland County Schools, Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville Technical Community College and Methodist University. There is no charge to participate.

The leadership program holds seven monthly training sessions from September through April, excluding the month of December. Sessions are held in different locations from 6 to 9 p.m., usually on the third Tuesday of the month. The focus varies each month and targets different areas of community service, with an emphasis on non-profit agencies, city and county government, arts and culture organizations and area schools and colleges.

Anyone interested in applying for the leadership program must be a registered Cumberland County voter, agree to attend every session if selected and be willing to sign up as a volunteer with one community organization.

The application and a full list of requirements are available online at <a href="http://leadership4us.org">http://leadership4us.org</a>. The deadline to apply is July 11. Call 910-437-1921 or email <a href="mailto:sshutt@co.cumberland.nc.us">sshutt@co.cumberland.nc.us</a> for more information.