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Health Department Receives $20,000
for Maternal and Child Health Initiative

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Department of Public Health received a $20,000 N.C. Department of Health and Human Services grant to fund planning and capacity-building activities for implementing evidence-based strategies to lower infant mortality and improve birth outcomes as well as the overall health of children from birth to age 5.

As part of the grant, Cumberland County partnered with health departments from Richmond, Montgomery and Hoke counties to establish a community action team made up of key stakeholders such as health directors, public health department consumers and community partners. Each county received $20,000 to fund the multi-county initiative and grant funds will be used to hire a temporary program manager for the project.

As part of the initiative, the community action team representing the four counties attended the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Action Institute in January 2016 and learned about collective impact and capacity building.

"We are excited about this opportunity to bolster our efforts using the collective impact model to collaborate across our four-county region to better understand what each community is already doing relative to the three areas, and to create opportunities for evidence-based strategies to be used across our communities," said Cumberland County Health Director Buck Wilson.

Cumberland County's infant mortality rate of 9 per 1,000 births is above the state average of 7.2 per 1,000 births.

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 co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx#. Comments are welcome and can be submitted on our website at co.cumberland.nc.us/health/commentsform.aspx. The Health Department is located at 1235 Ramsey St. Fayetteville.

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