



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Department of Public Health

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## Deputy Health Director Named Bernstein Leadership Fellow

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County Department of Public Health Deputy Director Rod Jenkins has been selected as a Jim Bernstein Community Health Leadership Fellow for 2015-17.

The fellows program is administered by the North Carolina Foundation for Advanced Health Programs. Its purpose is to develop and prepare future leaders to work in and improve the health of rural and underserved communities in North Carolina.

Jenkins was notified of his selection in July and has already begun attending required leadership training. The core elements of the program are leadership, partnership, rural life and the N.C. health system. At the conclusion of the two-year fellowship, members are expected to:

- Have a clear understanding of rural and underserved community needs
- Demonstrate leadership skills to engage and collaborate with others to improve the health and economic status of a given community
- Be prepared and inspired to become a confident, highly-skilled and influential individual

“I am honored to have been selected as a 2015-17 Bernstein Health Leadership Fellow, and I will endeavor to learn all that I can and live up to the outstanding standards set forth by the late Mr. Jim Bernstein,” Jenkins said. “His passion for rural health and his attention toward the underserved citizens of North Carolina sparked a national movement and I will admirably represent Cumberland County and surrounding areas.”

Jim Bernstein was the first president of the N.C. Foundation for Advanced Health Programs. He and former Gov. Jim Hunt formed the foundation in 1982.



Jenkins is a graduate of The Citadel and the University of South Carolina and served in the South Carolina Army National Guard from 1994-2002. Jenkins has been the County’s deputy health director since 2011. He was previously an assistant county manager in Robeson County.

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

**JENKINS**