



## News Release



### For Immediate Release

Contact: Media Joint Information Line  
910-437-1880

Oct. 16, 2016

## County Transitions to Two Emergency Shelters Today

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. – In order to more efficiently serve residents, Cumberland County will consolidate shelter operations this afternoon. As of midnight, 103 people were registered at the four shelters open in the county.

Residents at Kiwanis, Smith and Spring Lake Recreation Centers were informed Saturday of the transition and asked to begin relocating to Westover Recreation Center at 267 Bonanza Dr., Fayetteville, after lunch today.

This will leave two shelters open in Cumberland County – South View High School, 4184 Elk Road in Hope Mills, and Westover Recreation Center.

Transportation is being provided for shelter residents who need assistance by the Fayetteville Area System of Transit.

The transition is taking place today so that shelter residents can be settled in before many of them return to work on Monday and their children resume attending Cumberland County Schools, which will open with a two-hour delay.

Cumberland County began shelter operations on Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. by opening three facilities – South View High School, Smith Recreation Center and Spring Lake Recreation Center. A fourth shelter opened on Oct. 8 at the Kiwanis Recreation Center; and a fifth on Oct. 10 at Mac Williams Middle School. The Mac Williams shelter closed Oct. 13.

Since Oct. 7, all shelters have been staffed by the American Red Cross, Cumberland County Departments of Public Health and Social Services and local law enforcement. Fayetteville-Cumberland Parks and Recreation staff has worked at the Smith and Kiwanis recreation centers and the department will continue to assist at the Westover Recreation Center. Town of Spring Lake employees have assisted at the Spring Lake Recreation Center and Cumberland County Schools continues to assist the County at the South View High School shelter.

Shelter meals have been provided by the Baptist Men organization, which established a base of operations at Cedar Falls Baptist Church. The Red Cross has transported the meals. The Cumberland County Schools also provided meals at South View High School. Many area businesses have also contributed food to the shelters and

emergency responders.

“Our hearts go out to the individuals and families affected by Hurricane Matthew. We have had hundreds stay in the emergency shelters during this disaster. We feel we can better serve the remaining shelter residents and provide some relief to the staff from various organizations who have been working 12-hour shifts by consolidating our operations,” said County Manager Amy Cannon.

###