



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 19, 2020

Public Information Office

Contact: Sally Shutt, Assistant County Manager

910-437-1921, [sshutt@co.cumberland.nc.us](mailto:sshutt@co.cumberland.nc.us)

## ***COVID-19 Update: 991 Cases, 32 Deaths*** **Board of Health Issues Statement to Community**

FAYETTEVILLE – There have been 73 positive COVID-19 cases reported to the Cumberland County Department of Public Health since Monday, June 15. This brings the total to 991 residents who have tested positive since the first cases were reported in March.

The Health Department was also notified this week of two deaths associated with coronavirus. Both individuals were in their 80s and residents of the N.C. State Veterans Nursing Home. To date, there have been 32 deaths of Cumberland County residents.

The State Veterans facility is one of two nursing homes in the county with a reported outbreak. In a congregate living setting, a COVID-19 outbreak is defined as two or more laboratory-confirmed cases. There have been 71 cases (50 residents and 21 staff) and 11 deaths reported at the State Veterans Nursing Home and eight cases (four residents and four staff) and one death at the Highland House Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center.

Health Director Dr. Jennifer Green reports that the outbreak at the Cumberland County Detention Center can be declared over. An outbreak is considered over if there is no evidence of continued transmission within the facility. This is measured as 28 days after the latest date of onset in a symptomatic person or the latest date of specimen collection in an asymptomatic person, whichever is later. The latest date for the Cumberland County Detention Center is May 20. There have been no new cases of COVID-19 at the Detention Center since that date.

### **Board of Health Statement**

As the Cumberland County total case count approaches 1,000, the Board of Health issued a [statement](#) encouraging the public to take action to slow the spread by following the three Ws: wearing facing coverings if you will be with other people, avoiding close contact by waiting 6 feet apart and washing your hands often.

“As we move into more days of warmer weather, we know more individuals will venture outside of their homes. The pandemic is not over. When you are in public, remember your three Ws: Wear, Wait and Wash. Without a vaccine, wearing a face covering, practicing social distancing, and washing your hands frequently, are the best prevention tools we have,” Green said.

The Board of Health also encouraged residents to get tested.

“Testing is now available at more than 15 locations in Cumberland County. Testing collection is available from the Cumberland County Health Department for anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and asymptomatic individuals hardest hit by the virus, including historical marginalized populations, older adults, healthcare workers, first responders, and frontline essential workers,” the statement read.

Visit the Cumberland County Testing and Collection [webpage](#) for more information on testing.

### **Staying Updated**

Cumberland County has made it easy for you to stay updated on the latest information about COVID-19. You can visit our [COVID-19 webpage](#), which has a list of COVID-19-related [closures and service changes](#). The county is also sharing important information on its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

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