



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Department of Public Health

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## ***COVID-19 Update***

### **County Reports 2 More Deaths, 224 Total Positive Cases**

FAYETTEVILLE – The Department of Public Health reports two Cumberland County residents have died since Sunday at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center from complications associated with COVID-19. Both individuals were in their 80s and had underlying medical conditions.

There are now 224 positive cases and a total of eight deaths involving Cumberland County residents.

“We offer our deepest condolences to these two families as they deal with the loss of their loved ones,” said Health Director Dr. Jennifer Green. “Older adults and people with underlying medical conditions are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, but anyone can have complications from the virus. We want everyone to remain engaged in preventing the spread of the virus, especially by following the stay at home order and social distancing.”

The case count in Cumberland County has increased by 24 since Saturday. The Public Health Department is monitoring the patients and identifying close contacts who may be affected. Staff will notify any contacts who fall under the guidelines for additional monitoring and testing. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines a “close contact” as being within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more.

“We are very pleased with the [announcement](#) today from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services that recruitment has started for the 250 additional contact tracers that will be hired by the Carolina Community Tracing Collaborative to support the efforts of our local health departments,” Green said.

The County has created a COVID-19 Dashboard that includes a zip code map, as well as gender and racial information based on available data. The dashboard is posted on the County’s website at [co.cumberland.nc.us/COVID19](http://co.cumberland.nc.us/COVID19) and on the [Cumberland County Coronavirus Response page](#).

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