

From: Kristin Bunton <kbunton@co.cumberland.nc.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 5:11 PM
Subject: Media Release: COVID-19 Update; County Reports Additional Death and 12 New Cases



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2020

Department of Public Health
Contact: Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director
Telephone: 910-433-3705
jgreen@co.cumberland.nc.us

COVID-19 Update **County Reports Additional Death and 12 New Cases**

FAYETTEVILLE – The Department of Public Health reports one additional death of a Cumberland County resident from complications associated with COVID-19. The individual was in their 70s and had underlying medical conditions.

An additional 12 cases were also reported. There are now 342 positive cases and a total of nine deaths involving Cumberland County residents.

“We offer our deepest condolences to the family and friends of those who have succumbed to this virus,” said Health Director Dr. Jennifer Green. “As North Carolina moves into easing restrictions after May 8, it’s important for everyone to remain vigilant and follow the recommended social distancing and wear a face covering when you cannot social distance.”

Food Benefits Participants Can Purchase Groceries Online

Starting today, North Carolina [Food and Nutrition Services](#) (FNS) participants will be able to purchase groceries online using their Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards at authorized online EBT retailers. North Carolina is the 10th state to implement this flexibility, which will remain permanently in place beyond the COVID-19 emergency.

The new flexibility will allow participants to buy food while also promoting social distancing to [prevent the spread of COVID-19](#) and helping families with transportation and mobility barriers.

Currently, Amazon and Walmart are the only authorized retailers approved for online FNS purchases nationally. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) must approve other retailers who wish to participate in the FNS online purchasing program. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) encourages other EBT retailers to pursue USDA approval to become authorized online retailers.

All EBT retailers in North Carolina have received information from USDA about how to become approved for online FNS purchases and other retailers are encouraged to seek approval for online purchasing. More information for retailers is available on the USDA [website](#).

More information about North Carolina Food and Nutrition Services can be found at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/low-income-services/food-nutrition-services-food-stamps>.

North Carolina individuals and families can apply for FNS at <https://epass.nc.gov/CitizenPortal/application.do>

Drive-Thru Food Distribution on Thursday

Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina, a program of Action Pathways, will conduct a drive-thru food distribution for Cumberland County residents in the parking lot of the Crown Complex, 1960 Coliseum Drive, Fayetteville, starting at **10 a.m. on Thursday, May 7**, until all the food is gone.

Individuals seeking food will be required to use the Owen Drive entrance to the Crown Complex. Food distribution will be on a first-come, first-served basis and will be given to a maximum of two households per vehicle.

The food bank is working closely with the North Carolina National Guard, Team Rubicon and Cumberland County Emergency Management to distribute food to an estimated 1,200 residents of Cumberland County, which includes Fayetteville, Hope Mills, Spring Lake, Eastover, Falcon, Godwin, Linden, Stedman and Wade.

Food boxes will supply families with enough food for about a week and will include items such as:

- A 5 lb. bag of chicken breast
- A produce box with cabbage, sweet potatoes, bananas, and other greens
- A box from The Emergency Food Assistance Program with various items
- 5 lb. bags of apples and oranges

The distribution will distribute over 30,000 pounds of food or 25,000 meals. To learn more about the event or how to access food, please call the Second Harvest Food Bank at (910) 485-6923.

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.

###

Kristin L. Bunton

Communication and Outreach Coordinator
Cumberland County Government
O: 910-438-4025
M: 864-497-4220

Make Cumberland COUNT!



**MAKE NC
COUNT**
C E N S U S 2 0 2 0

All correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the N.C. Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.