

May 16, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Department of Public Health Dr. Jennifer Green, Director Telephone: 910-433-3600

Cumberland County Commissioners Seek Community Input for Opioid Settlement Funded Strategies

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. – On behalf of the Cumberland County Commissioners, Cumberland County Department of Public Health is facilitating a series of community meetings in May and June 2022 to receive input about the strategies that may be supported with opioid settlement funds.

Cumberland County Government is estimated to receive \$16,984,644 over an 18-year period (2022-2038). The City of Fayetteville is estimated to receive \$1,994,964 during the same 18-year period.

Two options are available for counties and cities to spend their settlement funds according to <u>https://ncopioidsettlement.org/resources/</u> and will be discussed at the following meetings.

Tuesday, May 24 5:30 - 7 p.m. Headquarters Library Pate Room 300 Maiden Lane Fayetteville, NC 28301

Tuesday, June 14 5:30 - 7 p.m. Spring Lake Library 101 Laketree Blvd. **Tuesday, June 7 5:30 - 7 p.m.** Hope Mills Library 3411 Golfview Road Hope Mills, NC 28348

Wednesday, June 22 5:30 - 7 p.m. Eastover Civic Center 4008 School Street Spring Lake, NC 28390 Eastover, NC 28312

Feedback will be shared with the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners and Fayetteville City Council to determine how funds will be spent.

In July 2021, Attorney General Josh Stein announced a historic \$26 billion agreement that will help bring desperately needed help to communities harmed by the opioid epidemic. The state of North Carolina and all 100 counties, including Cumberland County, joined the agreement.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State and local government directs how opioid settlement funds are distributed in our state. These potential settlements and resolutions could bring as much as \$850,000 to North Carolina over an 18-year period to support state and local efforts to address the epidemic.

For more information about the Opioid Settlement Fund, visit <u>https://ncopioidsettlement.org/</u> or <u>https://www.morepowerfulnc.org/opioid-settlements/</u>

For more information if you or someone you know is struggling with opioid addiction, please seek help by visiting <u>allianceforaction.org</u> or calling Alliance Health at 800-510-9132.

For more information on how to administer naloxone, please visit <u>https://harmreduction.org/issues/overdose-prevention/overview/overdose-basics/understanding-naloxone/</u>

For more information about Cumberland County Department of Health programs or about the Cumberland-Fayetteville Opioid Response Team visit <u>https://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/departments/public-health-group/public-health</u>