



# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –  
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## **Disaster Food and Nutrition Services Benefits Open in Cumberland County**

Fayetteville, NC – Starting Friday, Cumberland County will be one of several North Carolina counties providing disaster food and nutrition benefits. Applications for the program will be taken at the Department of Social Services from Friday, April 29, through Tuesday, May 3, including Saturday and Sunday.

It is open to individuals not normally eligible for Food and Nutrition Services benefits who were affected by the April 16 tornadoes.

Cumberland County Department of Social Services received permission at approximately 4 p.m. today to release information regarding the administration of a Disaster Food and Nutrition Program for Cumberland County residents.

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services was approved by the US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service to provide food assistance in the form of Disaster Food and Nutrition Services benefits.

The program is open to individuals not normally eligible for Food and Nutrition Services benefits who were affected by the April 16 tornadoes that struck the county. Residents of the affected areas of Cumberland County who are not currently receiving Food and Nutrition Services benefits may qualify for temporary assistance for a one month period if:

- Your home or self-employment property was damaged or destroyed
- You have disaster related expenses
- You lost wages
- You had food loss as a result of a power outage of at least eight hours

Eligibility is based on available income and resources.

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Those applying for Disaster Food and Nutrition Services benefits will be asked to provide proof of their identity along with proof of residency, such as a utility bill, and the social security numbers and dates of birth for all members of their household.

Applicants should apply in the county where they reside. Disaster Food and Nutrition applications will only be taken for five consecutive days.

**In Cumberland County, applicants should go to the North Entrance of the Department of Social Services, 1225 Ramsey St., between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Friday, April 29, through Tuesday, May 3. Staff will be on hand Saturday and Sunday during those hours.**

Replacement Benefits: For Cumberland County residents who currently receive Food and Nutrition Services benefits who suffered a food loss, damage to their home or self-employment property, or loss of wages as a result of the April 16 storms may request replacement benefits during the above time period or normal operating hours unless they have already done so. Requests for replacement benefits must be completed no later than May 6, 2011.