



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Oct. 24, 2016

Department of Social Services

Contact: Brenda Reid Jackson, Director

Telephone: 910-323-1540, E-mail: [DSSDirector@ccdssnc.com](mailto:DSSDirector@ccdssnc.com)

## **URGENT: Disaster Food Stamps End Wednesday, Oct. 26**

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. – Applications for Disaster Food and Nutrition benefits are being accepted through **Wednesday, Oct. 26**, at the Department of Social Services, 1225 Ramsey Street. The hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Applications for residents age 60 and older and any individuals who are disabled with mobility issues are being taken at St. Luke AME Church located at 522 Hillsboro Street through Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Disaster food stamps are authorized for eligible households not currently receiving food and nutrition benefits that have experienced a loss as a result of Hurricane Matthew. Residents may qualify for assistance if their home was damaged or destroyed, they have disaster-related expenses, or they lost income or had food loss as a result of a power outage or household flooding resulting from Hurricane Matthew.

Social Services Director Brenda Jackson encourages families who have been affected by the flooding and storm-related power outages to apply for the benefits before it is too late. The benefits are designed to provide a household food for one month. Eligibility is based on income and resources on hand for all members of the household.

Residents currently receiving food stamp benefits, including those requesting replacement benefits, are not eligible for this disaster program.

Individuals applying at both locations will be asked to provide verification of identity. This does not need to be picture identification; any document showing their name, such as a utility or other bill, will be accepted.

Because long lines and wait times are possible, individuals are encouraged to bring medications and other necessary items. Due to limited space, individuals are encouraged to limit the number of people accompanying them and to consider arranging child care if possible. Residents should come prepared for inclement weather while waiting outdoors as no outdoor shelter is available for those waiting in line.