



FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
FORT BRAGG & CUMBERLAND COUNTY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL
AGENDA**

Monday March 5, 2026, 6:00-7:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

*Shannon Gettings, Healthcare Representative
Melissa Pennington, Do Not Work in Local Gov
Representative*

*Beth Maynard, Cumberland County Schools
Kenny Bailey, Local Government*

Shella Korch, Public Health Representative

Clifton Johnson, Cumberland County Co-Chair

*Robert Elliott, Farming/Agriculture
Representative*

MEMBERS ABSENT:

*Joyce Adams, Higher Education
Alexis McClain, Farming/Agriculture
Representative
Roni Winston, Do Not Work in Local Gov
Representative*

STAFF PRESENT:

Tamra Morris, Deputy Health Director

LaToya Bell, WIC Outreach Coordinator

*Sheena Butler, Public Health Educator
Supervisor*

*Martina Sconiers-Talbert, Administrative Officer
III/Grants Manager*

Kyara Crocker, Public Health Educator I

Ashely Curtice, WIC toolkit director

VISITORS:

None present.



Item 1. Call to Order:

Dr. Clifton Johnson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Item 2. Action Items:

The meeting was called to order after confirming a quorum with seven members present. The agenda and the January meeting minutes were approved. It was also noted that the February meeting had been cancelled due to weather conditions.

WIC toolkit interviews –*Ashely Curtice, WIC toolkit director* presented the development of WIC CIAO (*community innovation & outreach*) The products from this 2025-2026 project will become a military-wide resource.

- **Raise awareness** about WIC program and benefits in the Fort liberty community.
- **Reduce barriers** to WIC enrollment and service continuity.
- Coordinate with local community partners to **amplify WIC office outreach** and strengthen food insecurity efforts.
- Align with Military Family Advisory Network (MFAN) to **create a military WIC office council** to share best practices across installations.

Ashely Curtice, provided an overview of the project, noting that it is currently in the informal qualitative research phase. Funding has been secured to develop a comprehensive Military WIC Toolkit. Interviews have been conducted with members of the National WIC Association as part of the research process. The full toolkit is expected to be developed by summer 2026, with supporting media materials planned for launch in the fall to promote the toolkit. The publication date for the toolkit is TBA.

Legislative Updates/WIC/SNAP- *Tamra Morris, Deputy Health Director*

- FPC Priorities about Medicaid, SNAP. WIC were shared with Board of County Commissioners and *Ron Hamm, legislative Vendor for the County and Board of County Commissioners*.
- BOCC voted on the FY 27 Legislative Agenda during the Feb 2, 2026, meeting. Those meetings are broadcasts and are available on the county website.

BOCC Legislative Priorities:

- Public water and sewer infrastructure investments to modernize aging systems and expand access to countywide clean, safe, regulated water.



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- Engineering studies for future water supply and capacity projects in Grays Creek and southern Cumberland County.
- Investments in school infrastructure including critical facility repairs and new high school to address aging buildings and enrollment needs.
- Expand youth mental health and substance use services.
- Preconstruction funding for regional Aquatic center.
- Emergency services equipment, including a mobile incident command unit and digital dispatch upgrades.

Legislative Updates:

- Current proposed federal funding packages did not include a provision to migrate snap cost shifts to states included in the budget reconciliation law (H.R.1)
 - SNAP citizenship and work requirements are now in place.
 - Administrative costs will shift to the states beginning in October 2026 (50% →75%)
 - SNAP state's will be required to share in benefit costs based on statewide Payment Error Rates (PER).
 - H.R. 1 Decreases enrollment by eliminating allowances when calculating benefits to include certain standard utility allowances and family expenses as well as creating stringent work requirements for unhoused, and children over 14 years old and adults.
- **Medicaid Updates:**
 - Funding shortfalls for NC Medicaid.
 - \$819 million in Medicaid funds for the year that started in July
 - H.R.1 Requires additional Medicaid eligibility checks (2X per year) and work requirements (Jan 2027)
 - NC Medicaid administrators will likely need an additional \$31.2 million per year to conduct the required eligibility determinations.
 - States program would need an additional \$13.2 million for ongoing administrative cost and a one-time infusion of \$6.5 million to help with startup cost
 - NC DHHS is working to determine how to fund these mandates.
- **Summer EBT:**
 - Summer electronic benefit transfer program summer EVT is entering its third year.



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- Thirty-eight states (including North Carolina) Washington D.C., five Indian Tribal Organizations, and all five U.S. territories are poised to implement summer EBT this year
- NC Rural Health Transformation Grant
 - The NC Roots Hub initiative aims to improve access to healthy foods in rural communities through various health programs.

Farmer's Market: It was reported that a farmer's market was not secured as a co-applicant for the recent grant application. The group will continue exploring other potential sources of financial support to help advance the work of the Food Policy Council. Applications have been submitted for support through the USC Partnership Hub intern program as well as for Pathway students.

Legislative Priority Group Discussion- *Dr. Clifton Johnson, Cumberland County Co-Chair*

The proposed legislative priorities for 2026 were finalized and confirmed, with no changes to report.

Item 4. Conclusion - *Dr. Clifton Johnson, Cumberland County Co-Chair*

a. Introduction of Visitors: *none present*

b. Public Comment: *No public comments were provided during the meeting.*

c. Announcements: The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners encourages public participation in effective governance and invites county residents to apply to serve on the County's citizen advisory boards. This application is specifically for residents interested in joining the Food Policy Council. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis, and all submissions will be reviewed when vacancies arise.

ADJOURN

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Monday, April 6, 2026, 6-7:30 pm

Virtual meeting on Webex