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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County to Release Payments Held Due to State Budget Impasse

Cumberland County, PA- The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has enacted the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget and is preparing to release payments for Human Services funding. Cumberland County is expecting to receive its funding for services provided since July 2015 within 15 days.

In order to continue to provide services during the Commonwealth's budget impasse, the County implemented several cash flow measures to provide services without interruption to our most fragile populations served by these programs. Those measures included, but are not limited to, partnering with many of the County's human service providers, vendors, and employees. Cash payments were placed on hold for services, reimbursements, and other purchases. Many of our service providers continued to provide uninterrupted services while not receiving payment from the County for an extended period of time. The County had also implemented a hiring freeze for all County positions unless they were integral to providing direct services.

The County has held payments to vendors and expense reimbursements to County employees since October of 2015. Today, at their public Finance meeting the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to authorize releasing those payments and lifting the policy measures that had been enacted to minimize the financial impact to the County during the State budget impasse. On January 22, 2016, the County will release all the payments to vendors and employees that have been on hold. If service providers or vendors have questions concerning payments, please contact the human service agency/department directly.

The County applauds the dedication of its vendors, service providers, and employees who allowed the County to place their payments on hold. It was through this cooperation that the County was able to minimize the impact to the County as a whole and most importantly, to the fragile populations served by the human service programs.

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