



COUNTY of CUMBERLAND

Public Library & Information Center  
*Winner National Medal for Museum and Library Service*

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Cumberland County Public Library Receives Grants**

*Funds will support returning citizens and to expand access online collection*

The Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center has been awarded two grants totaling \$20,428 from the State Library of North Carolina. The funding will support the project “2<sup>nd</sup> Chance @ Success” for returning citizens, and service “Digital Library @ DSS” that expands access to the library’s digital collections.

#### **2nd Chance @ Success**

This project partners the public library with agencies primarily through collaboration with the Fayetteville Cumberland Reentry Council to provide employment assistance to individuals with a former criminal background. Because these individuals must overcome numerous obstacles to establishing their lives after prison, this project offers targeted library resources and materials to improve their chances to find employment, which in turn can lessen recidivism. One of the project's objectives is to provide a clear path to library resources for the individuals and their families. The grant for this project is \$11,342.

#### **Digital Library @ DSS**

By offering free and convenient access to the library's electronic collection, this project will extend public library services to families and individuals, who receive services at the Cumberland County Department of Social Services. This service will also reach military family members who receive support from the Army Community Service agency that is located in the same building. This innovative approach reaches beyond the walls of the public library to potential library users, who will be able to check out digital materials with a free two-day pass that does not require a library card. The grant for this project is \$9,086.

*These projects are supported by grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.*

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