

For Immediate Release

ULRICH NEW ARC DIRECTOR

July 15, 2008 - The Board of Directors of American Red Cross in Madison County has announced that Diane Ulrich assumed the position of Executive Director on June 30.

A resident of Midway, Mrs. Ulrich comes to the position with valuable experience that will help ARC continue to move forward in Madison County. Having sold real estate in the county, primarily in the West Jefferson area, she is very familiar with the county layout and its various housing issues. Most recently, Ulrich was the Coordinator for the Mt. Sterling Community Center where she planned budgets, programming, and recruited and scheduled volunteers. Rounding out the assets she brings to the new position, Diane also holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Ohio Christian University.

The combination of education and experience should aid Ulrich as she takes over the various Red Cross programs including fire/disaster response and preparedness, several education programs including CPR and first aid, and coordination of blood drives.

"I am particularly proud to be representing the services and values of American Red Cross," stated Director Ulrich. "We have been one of the most rapidly growing non-profit agencies in Madison County and I look forward to meeting the challenges of continuing that growth to the benefit of all of our residents.

One of the first challenges facing the new Executive Director will be to fill two AmeriCorps positions which are provided through a grant. One position will focus on Emergency Services, recruiting and training volunteers and updating all plans and agreements. The other position will head community education, focusing on CPR, first aid, and general preparedness classes and programs for the community. Those who are accepted in the Ameri-Corps program agree to work 1700 hours for the next year while earning an education award of \$4750 in addition to a biweekly stipend.

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American Red Cross Add One

Other immediate goals will be to increase the number of volunteers, particularly in Disaster and to strengthen financial support so that the ARC programs in Madison County can continue to expand to meet needs of the residents.

Diane Ulrich is married to husband Ken who farms for The Ohio State University at the Molly Caren facility. They have three daughters, two of whom have graduated from Madison Plains and the youngest still attending the school.

To inquire about classes, volunteering, or applying for open AmeriCorps positions and/or to welcome Diane to her new position, call the local American Red Cross office at 740-845-9939.

The American Red Cross provides relief to victims of disasters at home and abroad, collects and distributes nearly half of the nation's blood supply, teaches lifesaving skills, and supports military members and families. The American Red Cross, a charity and not a government agency, depends on voluntary contributions of time, money and blood to perform its humanitarian mission.

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The American Red Cross of Greater Columbus is dedicated to helping make families and communities safer at home and around the world. Sustained by over 600 volunteers, the Red Cross provides assistance to more than 500 families each year after home fires and other disasters strike. Last year the organization trained and educated more than 97,000 area residents in vital lifesaving skills like first aid, CPR and how to prepare for emergencies. The Red Cross also sent more than 800 emergency messages between members of the military and their families. The community transportation program provides rides to medical appointments for seniors and individuals with disabilities, logging more than 19,600 trips last year. All these programs and more are made possible by the donations of time and money from the greater Columbus community.

Michael Carroll is the CEO of the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus and Mary Navarro serves as the board chair.

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