



**American
Red Cross**

of Greater Columbus

NEWS ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

Local Lifeguards Take 1st Place in State Lifeguard Competition

August 8, 2008 – The 2008 American Red Cross State Lifeguard Competition, hosted at the City of Mason's Lou Eves Municipal Pool by the Cincinnati Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, was a huge success. Twenty-seven teams from across Ohio competed in the event and for the third year in a row, a team from the Greater Columbus area has taken top honors.

The Groveport Aquatics Center Team took 1st place at the weekend competition, while a team from the City of Dublin earned a third place finish. These two teams, along with four others from the greater Columbus area, advanced to the State competition after proving themselves the best among the 21 teams that competed locally on July 13th at The Ohio State University's McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion. Columbus's competition is one of five American Red Cross Lifeguard Competitions held throughout the state. These events are used to measure American Red Cross trained lifeguards' preparedness, professionalism and performance in a fun and safe environment.

Editor's Note: Photos of the event and top teams are available upon request.

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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