



**Mark A. McDonnell, RS, MS, Health Commissioner**  
**Robert P. Dillaplain, MD, Medical Director**

# News Release

**For Immediate Release**  
**August 6, 2009**

**Contact: Sara T. Pappa, Public Information Officer**  
**(937) 374-5662 or toll-free at 1(866) 858-3588**

## **Greene County Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer Selected for National Training**

**(Greene County, OH)** The Office of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps has selected Cecilia Bidigare, of Beavercreek, OH, to attend the 2009 Public Health Service Field Deployment Training. The training is organized by the Office of the Surgeon General's Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD). Cecilia Bidigare is an active member of the Greene County Medical Reserve Corps (GCMRC). Don Brannen, the GCMRC Coordinator, approved her application with the consent of Mark McDonnell, the Health Commissioner of the Greene County Combined Health District (GCCHD). The Health Commissioner states, "This is an exciting field training opportunity for our MRC unit. Cecilia has been a valuable long term member of the GCMRC unit. She was activated during the aftermath of Hurricane Ike and to support the Ohio AIDS Coalition's Bergamo HIV Positive Women's Healing Retreat supported by the Greene and Clark County MRC Units. She is also a member of the Academic Nursing Disaster Coalition Planning Committee that coordinates nursing students during emergencies."

The training is one of five separate 6-day sessions in August and September and will be conducted at Fort AP Hill, an Army training facility in Bowling Green, Virginia (located 72 miles south of Washington D.C.). MRC members will train alongside Public Health Service officers. This training will be conducted in a field setting under austere and rustic conditions. The goal is to enhance response team cohesion, build resiliency, improve operational readiness and foster cross-cultural expertise.

The mission of the GCMRC is to establish a team of local volunteers, both medical and non-medical who can contribute throughout the year as well as during times of community need. The unit, housed at the GCCHD, is comprised of locally based, medical and Citizen Corps volunteers who assist their communities during emergencies, such as an influenza epidemic, a chemical spill or an act of terrorism. Persons interested in volunteering for the GCMRC should sign up on [www.serveohio.org](http://www.serveohio.org) <http://www.serveohio.org> or call Don Brannen at (937) 374-5660.

**Greene County Combined Health District – Your center for public health services  
and health information in Greene County for over 80 years.**

**Healthy People...Healthy Communities**

**GCCHD**  
**360 Wilson Dr., Xenia, OH 45385**  
**<http://www.gcchd.org>**