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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washtenaw County Medical Reserve Corps to Offer Training to Members this Summer Residents Invited to Join at Membership Orientations in April

YPSILANTI, Mich., April 13, 2010 In order to better prepare Washtenaw County to face any emergency, Washtenaw County Public Health will be training Washtenaw County Medical Reserve Corps (WC MRC) members on psychological first aid, the Washtenaw County All-Hazard and the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Plan. Medical and non-medical professionals, students and retiree's are encouraged to join the WC MRC.

The program is designed to organize citizens with a variety of skills to assist local community emergency response initiatives. As part of a nationwide network of similar community chapters, involvement offers members training opportunities in a variety of emergency scenarios.

Become a member of the WC MRC and have the opportunity to volunteer your time and skills in the event of an emergency. Your help is needed to support the response of existing agencies and professionals.

"We want as many volunteers as possible who can do everything from logistics, planning, purchasing and volunteers from medical fields, as well," said Cindra James, the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Washtenaw County Public Health Department.

The orientations offer an introduction to the WC MRC, information on how to join the national registry, methods to identify what each individual member can offer the program, and a brief exercise.

If you are 18 years or older and interested in learning more, attend one of the two orientations in April at the Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor MI 48108:

- Saturday April 24th at 10:00 a.m.
- Thursday April 28th at 6:00 p.m.

To reserve refreshments and a seat, please RSVP to Leann at 734-544-2974 or fredal@ewashtenaw.org.

Orientation attendance is required in order to become a WC MRC member and to attend future trainings.

The WC MRC is dedicated to ensuring that Washtenaw County residents enjoy the best possible access to preventive care, medical treatment, and information in emergency situations. This can be accomplished through partnerships with the community to organize and train local public health, medical and other volunteers to supplement existing emergency response capabilities.