

## DMATTERS

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### **MCH signs MOU**

Dr. Frank McCullough has signed the Memorandum of understanding with NDMS on behalf of the Medical College of Ohio. The Toledo Area DMATs have an official sponsor and are again official DMATs. Contact information has been provided to NDMS and activation will be initiated through a phone call to the MCH Emergency Department by which team leaders of each team will be contacted to initiate the team member calling tree. Lucas County Emergency Management Agencies signed an MOU with NDMS also and will act as our Federal Coordinating Center under Wright Patterson Air Force Base. They will provide assistance and coordinate our teams interfacing with the military command support groups.

### **Next DMAT Meeting**

The Next meeting of the TADMAT will be held at the County Jail Bldg. In the Emergency Management Agencies Control Center. This area will be the control center for communications and command in the event of a serious local or national disaster. The meeting will begin as a tour of the EMA's Control Center and then on to their conference room for our regular business and informational meeting. The address of the Jail Bldg. Is 1622 Spielbush and parking is available immediately across from the address in the AllRight Parking lot. Enter the bldg. At the main entrance and the deputy behind the desk will direct you to the meeting place. The meeting will begin at 7PM May 18<sup>th</sup> with a tour. Please be prompt.

### **Volunteers needed**

May 19<sup>th</sup> at 1PM a group will be needed to move the backboards that are currently stored in the old REMSNO annex bldg. Downtown. The equipment will be moved to our other storage facility in the Douglas Bldg. At Detroit and Arlington. As there are about 80 backboards, the more people we can get the better. If you can help or have equipment stored to be donated to the DMATs, please contact Joe Lord at 693-8385 ASAP.

### **Write your Representative:**

The need for Federal funding to support DMAT equipment and training has become a major and urgent issue. Please assist in the fight to alert our Congressperson and Senators about the need for funding the NDMS. Urge them to recommend to the Appropriations subcommittees a higher level of HHS emergency preparedness funding for NDMS. Letters should describe your personal involvement with DMATs, the existence of the TADMAT as an asset in our local community, state and nationally. List specific ways that Federal funding could be used in support of our DMATs equipment and training needs. Your letters should reference the HHS Fiscal Year 1993 Budget Request for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), "emergency

preparedness” account. Additionally request a funding increase to \$54 million for fiscal year 1993. Please send a copy to NDMS HQ listed below. The following is an example letter:

Dear Congressperson (Senator),

I am writing this letter to alert you to an important issue. I presently am a member of the Toledo Ohio Disaster Medical Assistance Teams. I have been a volunteer member of this team for two years. The team provides a valuable resource of medically trained personnel who respond to disasters to provide life saving assistance when requested by local, state or federal agencies. Our DMATs are composed of many dedicated volunteers and as we currently have no funding, we are in drastic need of such in order to properly train and educate our team members in disaster life-saving techniques and to assist in acquiring equipment and supplies to support our efforts such as shelter, lighting and medical supplies. I urge you to support a request to increase the level of funding to \$5 million for the HHS Fiscal Year 1993 budget request for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), “emergency preparedness” account. Please support this request for funding to support the NDMS system. The risk of disaster is ever present and hopefully our well-trained, well-equipped team can assist to decrease the devastation and impact on our communities of a large scale natural or man-made disaster.

**Pre-Drill Briefing:**

There will be a pre-drill briefing for all team members, specifically those who will be going on the May 30-31 and Sept 17-19 drills. This briefing will include time for last minute updates about the drill, time for questions from team members, and we hope to have someone from the ANG present to remind us of safety considerations for when we are around the transport aircraft. If you are going on the May drill, make every effort to attend. The meeting will be held at MCH in the Health Education Bldg. Rm 103 and will begin promptly at 7PM. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please see your team leader right away.