Press Release
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Greene County Public Health Salutes Public Health Heroes
Public Health Thank You Day, November 23, 2015

XENIA, OH—On the Monday before Thanksgiving, Greene County Public Health will join Research!America and leading U.S. public health organizations to recognize public health professionals who go above and beyond to protect the health of all Americans.

Public Health Thank You Day 2015 honors all those unsung heroes who keep our children safe from infectious disease, promote mental health for our veterans and community, prevent injuries, and much more! These heroes include our health inspectors, environmental health scientists, community health clinicians, health educators, epidemiologists, emergency preparedness coordinators, communicable disease nurses, and crisis communicators.

“Public Health Thank You Day reminds us of the invaluable contributions of those who work selfishly and in sometimes dangerous conditions to ensure that Americans are protected from health threats,” said Mary Woolley, president and CEO of Research!America. “Their lifesaving efforts should be commended each and every day.”

Recent outbreaks of Legionnaires disease, meningococcal disease, listeria, salmonella, and even ebola have shown that in spite of the challenges and risks, public health professionals continue to dedicate their time and energy to combat disease and build a healthier environment for Americans. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and various institutions within our public health infrastructure have come together to address recent outbreaks, and public health professionals are tackling these threats head-on—as they do with other health challenges on a daily basis.

“Thousands of doctors, researchers, nurses and others in the U.S. and around the world dedicate their lives to protecting the public's health from infections and diseases,” said Thomas Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “Because of their determination to stop the spread of life-threatening viruses and bacteria, to conduct disease prevention research, and to help people make healthier personal choices, we can all live healthier and safer lives. Thank you!”

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“Our employees come together every day to protect our community. They serve because they know their efforts make for a better Greene County today and brighter future for tomorrow,” said Melissa Branum, Greene County Public Health Commissioner.

More information and materials can be found at www.publichealththankyouday.org.

About Greene County Public Health
Our mission is to prevent disease, protect our environment, and promote healthy communities and wellness in Greene County. Our employees accomplish this through integrated community efforts and assessment, health education, collaboration and assurance of quality services, disease prevention and control, and emergency preparedness. Our vision is to be the recognized leader that addresses health outcomes, reduces health disparities, upholds standards of public health practice, and improves service to the community.

About Research!America
Research!America is the nation’s largest not-for-profit public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority. Founded in 1989, it is supported by member organizations that represent more than 125 million Americans. For more information, visit www.researchamerica.org.

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