**Christina Fozio**

**Disaster Services Director**

**Medina County Office of Emergency Management and**

**Homeland Security**

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Medina County Emergency Management is a local government agency that provides support and coordination assistance to local communities and first responders for county-wide emergency/disaster planning, education, warning, response, and recovery activities.  The agency is one of seventeen county departments governed by a board, not the county commissioners.

Christina started with the agency in 2000 as the Administrative Assistant.  As she learned about Emergency Management, she gained an appreciation for the agency’s role within Medina County.  She was promoted to Emergency Management Specialist in 2002 and Deputy Director in 2004.  In 2011 she was appointed Director and is only the second director for the agency since emergency management came to be in Medina County in 1989.  Over the years she gained an understanding of grant writing and has been very successful with bringing approximately $12 million in revenue back to the county for planning, equipment and training.  In 2011 Christina initiated the restructuring of the Medina County All-Hazards Team, operated by the Medina County Fire Chiefs Association, as a sub-committee of the Medina County Emergency Management Executive Board.

The agency has 3 full time staff members who do ongoing upkeep of such plans as the County All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan, Hazardous Materials Plan, Debris Management, Donations Management and Mitigation Plan.  The agency also oversees the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), on behalf of the county commissioners.  The LEPC carries out the Community Right-to-Know requirements of EPCRA-the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, which lays out the objectives for how counties work with other government stakeholders, along with business and industry, to evaluate, understand, train, coordinate and communicate chemical hazards in the community in the development of  hazardous materials planning.  The LEPC oversees the 4-year exercise requirements set forth by the State Emergency Response Commission and responds with Ohio Environmental Protection Agency on hazardous materials response and clean-up.

Christina has an Associate Degree in Emergency Management Planning and Administration, an Associate Degree in Commercial Art and Advertising and is also an Ohio Certified Emergency Manager.  She has been a resident of Litchfield Township since 1997, serves as the Litchfield Township Zoning Secretary and was recently appointed the Executive Director of our Medina Bluecoats.