

Message from the Director:



Happy New Year! I am hopeful that you all had a joyous holiday season! The Defiance Area Foundation is truly grateful for your support of Defiance County. Through the first six months of our fiscal year, gifts total \$1,204,137 and grants awarded back to Defiance County totaled \$654,498. Funding is still available this year – and the grant deadline is March 31. Please see our website for more details and how to apply. Also, Take a look below at the clothes for kids initiative and its' impact on Defiance County. We continue to be blessed through your generosity. Thank you for supporting us as we continue to serve. - Chris Yoder



Save the date

YELP – Youth Engaged
Leadership and Philanthropy



The Children's Business Fair will be held again this year in conjunction with the Lilac Festival on May 13th. Youth entrepreneurs can apply starting March 1st. Contact Tisha at yelpdefiance@gmail.com for more information.

Clothes for Kids initiative

Clothes for Kids Fast Facts:

- » 208 shopping sponsors
- » 70 donations from individuals and businesses
- » 262 children received new outfits in Defiance County
- » Total Impact to the Defiance County \$42,975.32



Thank you to all of the sponsors who shopped for clothes for the local elementary school children, businesses and individuals who made donations, The Elks Lodge for their donation/shopping and being our collection point, and all those volunteers who made the 2022 clothes for kids a success this year!

Katie Groff Held and Mandi Kissner – Co-Chairs

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Project 2030

We are seven years away from the culmination of the Project 2030 selection considerations.

Here's a quick update:

Total Affiliates and Visionaries: 76 (goal is 100)

Total commitments: \$319,635 (goal is \$500,000)



Here is what one of our Project 2030 families shared with us about their participation:

"The Defiance community has been good to us over the years. Participating in Project 2030 allows us give back and shape the future direction of Defiance. "

-Blake and Kristi Sizemore Family

Scholarship outreach

It's that time of year again! Nearly 20 funds under The Defiance Area Foundation umbrella award scholarships annually. Last fiscal year \$64,530 was awarded to 57 students in Defiance County. Please visit our website <https://defianceareafoundation.org/scholarships/> or contact chris@defianceareafoundation.org for more information.



Andrew Jimenez fund

Drake Jimenez grew up living with 4 younger brothers. The brother he was closest in age with- Andrew- was diagnosed at age 18 months with autism. He was considered severely autistic and developed other health issues later in life. Despite these setbacks, Andrew was a loving and passionate person. Unfortunately, the life of Andrew Jimenez ended too soon. He had a seizure which shut down his body and he passed away at age 26 - a day after his last birthday.



Drake learned that there are about 500 people in the county who live with autism. Drake started a fund through The Defiance Area Foundation to help remember his brother. For those interested in more information, please contact Drake Jimenez at Holy Hill Media, or chris@defianceareafoundation.org

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