



*To Enhance, Enrich, Encourage, and Support the Defiance County Community*

## Director's Message



Summer...warm weather, beautiful blue skies, and barbeques! We celebrated a year of growth this year and I encourage you to review this Newsletter to see all of the ways your support has benefited Defiance County. Thank you for sharing your time, talents and treasures!

*Chris Yoder - Executive Director*

## Mission/Vision Update

### **Our Vision:**

*"To enhance, enrich, encourage and support the Defiance County Community"*

### **Our Mission:**

*The Defiance Area Foundation provides a vehicle to serve the philanthropic goals and heritage of the donors of Defiance County through community collaboration, impactful grant making, and financial stewardship.*

## A Year in Review 2017-2018

- **\$573,098 in total grant giving**
- **71 organizations received funding**
- **\$113,107 in community fund grants**
  - **9 new funds created**
  - **Assets total \$9,923,495**
  - **Legacy donors total 30**

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Annual Meeting September 27th, 2018 at The Defiance Dream Center Mark your Calendar! More information to follow.**
- **Marketing Committee October 10th at 9:00 a.m.**
- **Development Committee October 11th at 8:00 a.m.**
- **Trustee Meeting October 25th at 7:30 a.m.**



## Member Feature:

### *-Bud Williams-*

Little did I realize when Donna and I moved to Defiance in 1990 that 20 years later we would call Defiance home. Over the years we found that Defiance is "A Great Place To Live."

It is evident that the Defiance area community is a compassionate community which is exemplified by the generosity of its citizens that give financially and in kind. They see the value of giving back to the community so everyone may enjoy a good quality of life.

I am proud to be a member of the Defiance Area Foundation for 11 years. Defiance Area Foundation provides a valuable service to the community and it touches all facets through its programs, giving's and managing assets for other organizations.

We are fortunate to have an excellent Director to manage Defiance Area Foundation and community members who give of their time and talents to serve on the Board and on various committees.

**BE THE REASON  
SOMEONE BELIEVES  
IN THE GOODNESS  
OF PEOPLE.**

Karen Salmonson  
@notsalmon.com

## What's New?

May 9, 2018, the Trustees of The Defiance Area Foundation held a Strategic Planning Session facilitated by Suzanne Allen, President of Philanthropy Ohio. We spent the morning reviewing our Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Results and are working on a blueprint for the future. The first step that resulted from our Strategic Planning initiative was a modification of our Mission and Vision statements shared on the cover page of this Newsletter. Stay tuned for more information in the coming year of initiatives for 2019 and beyond!

## New Funds 2017-2018

Nine new funds were created this year: Helping Hands – City of Defiance; Moose Family Center #2094; Defiance City Schools Band Fund; Fitzenrider Fund for Families; Ayersville Education Foundation Fund-Stevens Scholarship Fund; Hanna Family Memorial Fund; Erica Strausbaugh Culinary Arts Scholarship Fund; Louise Hammersmith Memorial Fund; and ACRES Land Trust Endowment Fund (Preston Island). Call (419) 782-3130 for more information on any of the above funds that may be of interest to you.



## 40th Anniversary Celebration



It's hard to believe that next year - 2019 - The Defiance Area Foundation will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary! Gene Smart had a vision back in 1979. He gathered a small group of community members and asked for a donation of \$1,000 each. What started as an endowment of \$22,000 has grown to nearly \$10,000,000 in assets. Thank you to Defiance County, our families, friends, members, and supporters for making this possible. It is through your generous support that the Foundation has awarded over \$4,000,000 to Defiance County since 1979. Stay tuned to see what we have in store for our *40th Anniversary Celebration!*

## Clothes for Kids

The Clothes for Kids kick-off will begin in August and you will be contacted if you participated last year in the program. Over 120 elementary school children benefited last year with new back to school outfits! If you haven't participated in the past and would like to participate this year, please e-mail Erin Derrow at [erinderrow1@gmail.com](mailto:erinderrow1@gmail.com).



### Some of the programs we supported in 2017-2018:

*(L to R) Black Swamp Mobile Arts Program, Defiance Public Library, Black Swamp Beekeepers Association*



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