

# a difference

## DC COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER

*Defiance College partners with the community to help bring about positive change*



*DC student Brooke Gifford and Chief Supermarket staff member and DC alumna Annette Hoeffel '99 took part in Make a Difference Day activities.*

*by Michele Tinker, Director of Annual Giving*

Defiance College participated in the 20th National Make A Difference Day on October 23, along with millions of volunteers around the world who used this special day to bring about real change in their communities and to their neighbors.

Throughout the weekend, Defiance College students, alumni, community volunteers and staff worked to demonstrate the power of people. On campus, the DC football team held a Pink Out for Breast Cancer Awareness. Fans wore pink shirts and the players demonstrated their support by sporting pink tape and laces on the field.

Manning 12 locations at Chief Supermarkets and Ray's Stores in northwest Ohio, students and alumni bagged groceries for patrons while asking for non-perishable food items and gifts of cash for local food pantries. Their efforts resulted in a total of 233 bags of food and \$1,837 to fight hunger locally.

That evening, A Night Without A Home took place on campus, an event educating the community about the realities of homelessness. Students set up and slept in a tent city representing the homeless families in Defiance County, as well as the 10,576 Ohioans who utilized shelters throughout the state this past year. For the first time, several youth groups from area churches joined the DC students in their overnight vigil.

Coach Kyle Brumett and the Yellow Jacket men's basketball team headed for Columbus to make a difference, where they helped at the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. This was the team's third year volunteering at this event, and they were honored by the Special Olympics Committee with a special plaque for their outstanding dedication.

On Sunday morning, the Defiance College Alumni Network of Columbus turned out to assist with the event as well, providing framed photos for all the Special Olympics bowling teams.

Make a Difference Day has grown each year, as more organizations join forces to bring about positive change in our communities. Alumni director Dave Plant encourages DC's regional network of alumni to make plans for a Make A Difference Day event in each area. If you are interested in hosting a service event in your area, contact Lora Ripke, alumni network coordinator at 419-783-2316 or [lripke@defiance.edu](mailto:lripke@defiance.edu) for more information. ♦



*Social work professor Alesia Yakos-Brown '86 (top photo) goes over details of Night Without a Home, where tents lined the campus lawn (middle photo). Dr. Marian Plant '73 and Kim Bingham '08 bagged groceries (left photo) at Chief Supermarket during Make a Difference Day.*

*Pictured opposite page top: Assisting the DC men's basketball team at the Columbus Special Olympics bowling tournament were alumni Lucas Gutierrez '97, Scott Hundley '06, Cindy Shaffer '03 & '09, Jeremy Ball '04, Coby (Mealer) Boszor '90 and sons, Fran Wahrman '90, Krista Oberlander '03, Leanne (Schlenker) Moninger '01, Julie Steineman '06 and Linda (Laughrey) Zelms '71.*