



Dear Friends:

January 2018

Your spare change can change lives...

We would like to introduce you to an exciting community service program that provides funding for charitable and benevolent purposes in our community. This program provides you and your family the opportunity to make a big impact on many lives for just pennies and has been adopted by hundreds of utilities companies throughout the country.

This new program gives you the opportunity to “round up” your monthly bill to the next highest dollar. So, a \$64.79 utilities bill would be \$65.00 with the remaining 21 cents going to the program. For the average customer, that equals about 50 cents a month or about \$6.00 per year. Any money going to the Helping Hands Program is tax deductible.

Funds may go to help obtain critical lifesaving equipment, or to rescue organizations, food banks, educational projects, child care programs and many others. Funding may also be used to provide shelter and clothing to a family devastated by a fire, or it might go toward helping defray the medical costs of a neighbor with a catastrophic illness. The need is **great** and we can only imagine all the possibilities.

Once the fund reaches the minimum balance, which may take several years depending upon participating, applications will be accepted and funds will be distributed to non-profit charitable organizations. The remaining funds are invested in a donor-advised fund to benefit future generations. The Advisory Committee recommends who receives grant funds based upon program guidelines. Funding can go to organizations, families and individuals, but completion of an application is required for the Committee’s review.

Helping Hands is managed through a partnership with the Defiance City Utilities Office and The Defiance Area Foundation. The Advisory Committee to the fund is a five member board comprised of the Defiance Utility Income Director, a Board Member from The Defiance Area Foundation, and three community members from our service territory, appointed by the Mayor and approved by Defiance City Council. Each member volunteers their time and skills to help manage this important program.

The program is an “Opt-In” Program. If you wish to participate in this program just complete the form below or call our Member Services Representative at 419-782-1946. You may also visit our website at cityofdefiance.com under the utilities tab.

We thank you for participating in this important community program and applaud your efforts to help make our community a better place to live for our children, families, neighbors and friends. Please contact Linda Davila at ldavila@cityofdefiance.com or Chris Yoder at chris@defianceareafoundation.org for more information.

Opt In Form:

If you wish to participate just complete the information below, call our Member Services Representative at 419-782-1946, or visit our website at cityofdefiance.com under the utilities tab.

Please return this portion if you wish to OPT IN:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

YOUR SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

PHONE: _____