

From the Desk of the Chancellor, Dec. 19, 2011

Holiday giving is much on our minds now, as we seek ways to let family, friends, and colleagues know how much they mean to us during this special season. Giving to our community is also a habit of the season that extends throughout the year, for which I'd like to thank the hundreds of students, staff, and faculty who have opened their hearts to others in various campuswide campaigns.

IUPUI once again hosted the annual Central Indiana **Race for the Cure 5k**. More than 37,400 people were on campus to help raise \$2.5 million for breast cancer research. Some \$20,000 of that came from 611 IUPUI staff, faculty, and student participants.

Chaired by IUPUI staff member Maggie McGaughey, the annual **Back Pack Attack**, a citywide effort to provide classroom supplies, reached out to 35,904 needy students in central Indiana. The collection was hosted at IUPUI's surplus warehouse by staff member Ty Parrish, who was given the "BPA Hero" award for his logistics management. Sorting and shipping the supplies was made possible by some 300 volunteers, including helpers from SPEA and the IUPUI Alumni Relations Office.

Day of Caring, the annual half-day service project, sent 483 staff, faculty, and students to 14 agencies around town. The projects consisted of gardening and yard work; painting, decorating, and renovating interiors; preparing art projects for kids; and sorting food pantry donations.

Jam the Jaguars Pantry, the yearly campus canned food drive, involved 18 offices and several student groups and classes, who collected seven pallets of nonperishable food for agencies in Indianapolis. The Student Athlete –Advisory Committee hosted men's and women's basketball games in support of the drive and allowed free admission with a can donation. Under the coordination of John Rasmussen in IUPUI Athletics, the ladies soccer team and coaches volunteered to collect the campuswide donations in time for Thanksgiving.

Through the **Season of Giving Holiday Family Adoption**, 17 families are receiving gifts from IUPUI staff, faculty, and students this winter. In conjunction with the Hawthorne Community Center and Christamore House on the near westside, campus gifts were matched with family wish lists varying from basic necessities to toys and games. Stuart's Moving is donating a truck to deliver the gifts today.

The Staff Council sponsored "**Make a Soldier Smile**" as a community outreach project for the holiday season. They collected enough gifts to fill 60 large boxes plus \$500 in donations to help cover the shipping costs. The boxes will go to seven units in Afghanistan that were recommended by IUPUI employees who have family serving there. Children from the Center for Young Children crafted hand-



Chancellor Charles R. Bantz



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Contact Information:

Diane Brown

IUPUI Office of Communications & Marketing

317-274-2195

habrown@iupui.edu

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made cards, and Staff Council members wrote letter and cards to the soldiers to accompany the packages

Wishing everyone a joyful holiday!

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