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www.thonline.com/makeadifferenceday

NEWS RELEASE

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OTHERS ON OCTOBER 27

DUBUQUE, Iowa – “Make A Difference Day” is the most encompassing national day of helping others. Held annually on the fourth Saturday of October, millions of Americans are rallied into a single day of action to help change the world. On Saturday, Oct. 27, volunteer teams will spread out across the Dubuque community in a one-day blitz to provide helping hand services to the homes of their elderly, disabled, veteran and low-income neighbors.

Services may include both light-duty and heavy-duty chores around the home, curb appeal and yard work projects outside, socializing and playing games with homebound seniors, simple repairs, and weatherization activities such as caulking or applying window plastic. The goal of this sixth annual event is to provide 100 homes with free helping and caring services.

Interested community members can participate in this much-needed project in three important ways:

1. Recruit one or more volunteer teams to participate in the project on Oct. 27. Each team consists of six volunteers and will be asked to assist two homes that day. The work does not require a lot of skill and all materials will be provided to complete the job. The goal is to have all teams signed up by Oct. 1.
2. Assist in identifying and referring households that could use the volunteer services being provided. The target homes are those of elderly, disabled, veterans and low-income neighbors. The planning committee will follow up with all referred homeowners. The goal is to have homes identified by Sept. 28.
3. Donate funds to assist with purchasing all of the supplies and materials that will be required to serve 100 homes. It will cost about \$50 per home. Donations may be sent to Operation: New View Community Action Agency, 1473 Central Avenue, Dubuque, IA 52001. Please indicate "Make A Difference Day" on checks. Donations are tax deductible.

Complete details on the Dubuque Area Make A Difference Day 2012, including Team Signup Forms and Homeowner Referral Forms, can be found on event website at www.thonline.com/makeadifferenceday. To volunteer by phone or to request services by phone, please call Volunteer Dubuque! at 563-690-6048.

Special thanks to Westminster Presbyterian Church for hosting this year's event, and to the event's sponsors: Black Hills Energy, City of Dubuque, Diamond Jo, Dubuque Area Congregations United, Dubuque National Service Partnership, Operation: New View Community Action Agency, Prudential, Telegraph Herald, and Theisen's.

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