

Otterbein University

Digital Commons @ Otterbein

University Updates & Communications from the
University President

University Documents & Records

8-16-2017

Kindness Matters Initiative

Kathy A. Krendl
Otterbein University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/university_updates



Part of the [Educational Leadership Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Krendl, Kathy A., "Kindness Matters Initiative" (2017). *University Updates & Communications from the University President*. 42.

https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/university_updates/42

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Documents & Records at Digital Commons @ Otterbein. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Updates & Communications from the University President by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Otterbein. For more information, please contact digitalcommons07@otterbein.edu.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

1 South Grove Street
Westerville, OH 43081-2006
TEL 614-823-1420
FAX 614-823-3114

August 16, 2017

Dear Members of the Otterbein Community:

As I shared at the Welcome Back Celebration for faculty and staff on Monday, Otterbein, in partnership with The Columbus Foundation, is taking the lead in launching a Kindness Matters initiative working with the City of Westerville and many of our community partners. You will see red flowers popping up all over campus as symbols of the first round of Gifts of Kindness that colleagues presented to one another following up on the presentation by Mr. Bob Walter. He and his wife Peggy are the visionaries who launched this effort to create a Kind Columbus.

The Walters selected Otterbein as the perfect place to launch their campaign to make kindness contagious throughout the Columbus region because of our historic commitment to serving the common good and our core values of equality, opportunity, diversity, and inclusion. Further, they are aware of our aspiration to establish a Model Community as an institution of higher education.

At the same time that we celebrate our history and the unique character of our campus culture in embracing this initiative, we know that other campuses and communities are experiencing a quite different climate, a climate threatened by acts of hatred and intolerance and violence. Let me state clearly that Otterbein University has zero tolerance for hatred and violence.

I am fully confident that we will continue to distinguish our campus as one in which openness, acceptance, and understanding characterize our interactions with one another and that we will find ways to come to the support of those around the country who face such challenges. Please know that I appreciate your dedication to caring for our students and each other.

Sincerely,

Kathy A. Krendl
President