

## **Nora Miller was attracted to D&E for two reasons.**

First, she liked the Hospitality program with its mix of classroom and hands-on learning. Second, she liked its size.

“When I first got here, I used to lock my door and take my keys with me when I took a shower. But within the first three or four nights, I realized that was so dumb. I know everybody here.”

Nora’s life at D&E is strongly defined by her values of community and service. Through close relationships and a strong work ethic, she has created a student lifestyle that serves her personal and career goals.

“I like a place where I feel safe walking back to my room at midnight,” she says. “I think my friends and I all saw that here. We all like the small community and knowing everybody. You get to see more sides of people—in a party atmosphere or when they’re stressed out. You learn to get along.”

She cites the events of September 11 as an example of how her on-campus community provides ready assurance and support. That night, her Resident Assistant ordered pizza and movies and organized a slumber party in the middle of the hall. “It got everyone’s mind off of it,” she says, “and gave people a chance to talk.”



**Name:** Nora Sue Miller

**Major:** Hospitality Management

**Hometown:** Myerstown, Pennsylvania

**Activities:** Graceland employee, student ambassador, psychology club, resident assistant, nursery school at Grace Episcopal Church, dog walker for Randolph County Humane Society, D&E Baseball fan.

Serving others figures consistently in Nora’s “student life.” As a Hospitality Management major, she gets to work at the college’s Graceland Inn and Conference Center, helping guests from the moment they walk in the door. “Exceeding customers’ expectations is one of the things we always talk about in class,” Nora says. “By working in Graceland, I get to put that into practice every day. I also am learning what my field is really like by being inside an organization and working on a professional team. Graceland is used as a model in all of our hospitality classes now. That experience is really going to help when I look for a job after graduation.”

Off campus, Nora has found additional sources of enrichment. She’s involved in many service-related activities in Elkins, including working in the nursery at a local church and volunteering as a dog walker for the humane society.

“You have to make the first step and find the activity,” she says, “and then, whatever you want to do, you can find it.”

And for fun? Going to baseball games, going out to eat with friends and enjoying a starry night on Bickle’s Knob are the top picks for Nora’s “*student life*.”