

University of Massachusetts Boston

## ScholarWorks at UMass Boston

---

Office of Community Partnerships Posters

Office of Community Partnerships

---

4-2-2014

### Beacon Voyages for Service, The South: A comparative look at hunger, homelessness and poverty in North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Louisiana

Beacon Voyages for Service, University of Massachusetts Boston

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp\\_posters](https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters)



Part of the [Civic and Community Engagement Commons](#), [Higher Education Administration Commons](#), and the [Service Learning Commons](#)

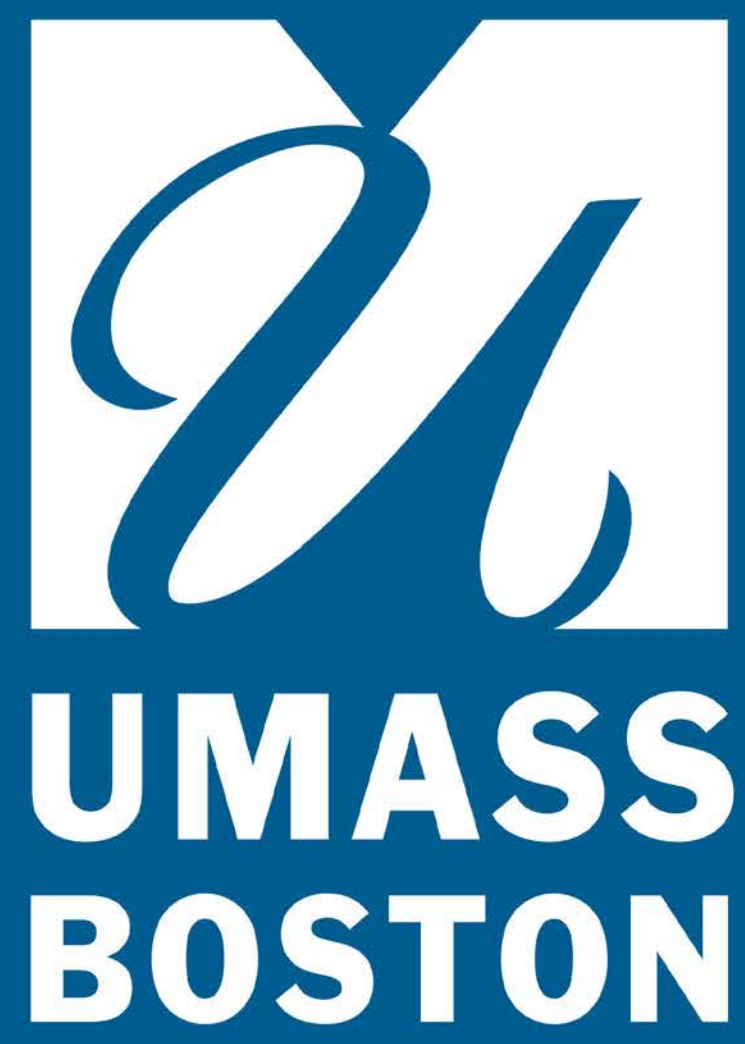
---

#### Recommended Citation

Beacon Voyages for Service, University of Massachusetts Boston, "Beacon Voyages for Service, The South: A comparative look at hunger, homelessness and poverty in North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Louisiana" (2014). *Office of Community Partnerships Posters*. 229.

[https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp\\_posters/229](https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters/229)

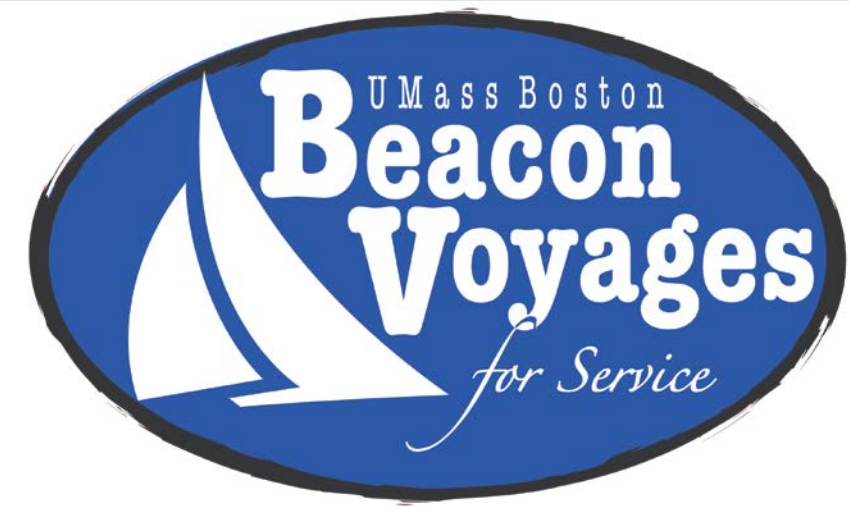
This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of Community Partnerships at ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. It has been accepted for inclusion in Office of Community Partnerships Posters by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@umb.edu](mailto:scholarworks@umb.edu).



# Beacon Voyages for Service

The South: A comparative look at hunger, homelessness and poverty in North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Louisiana

## Project Description

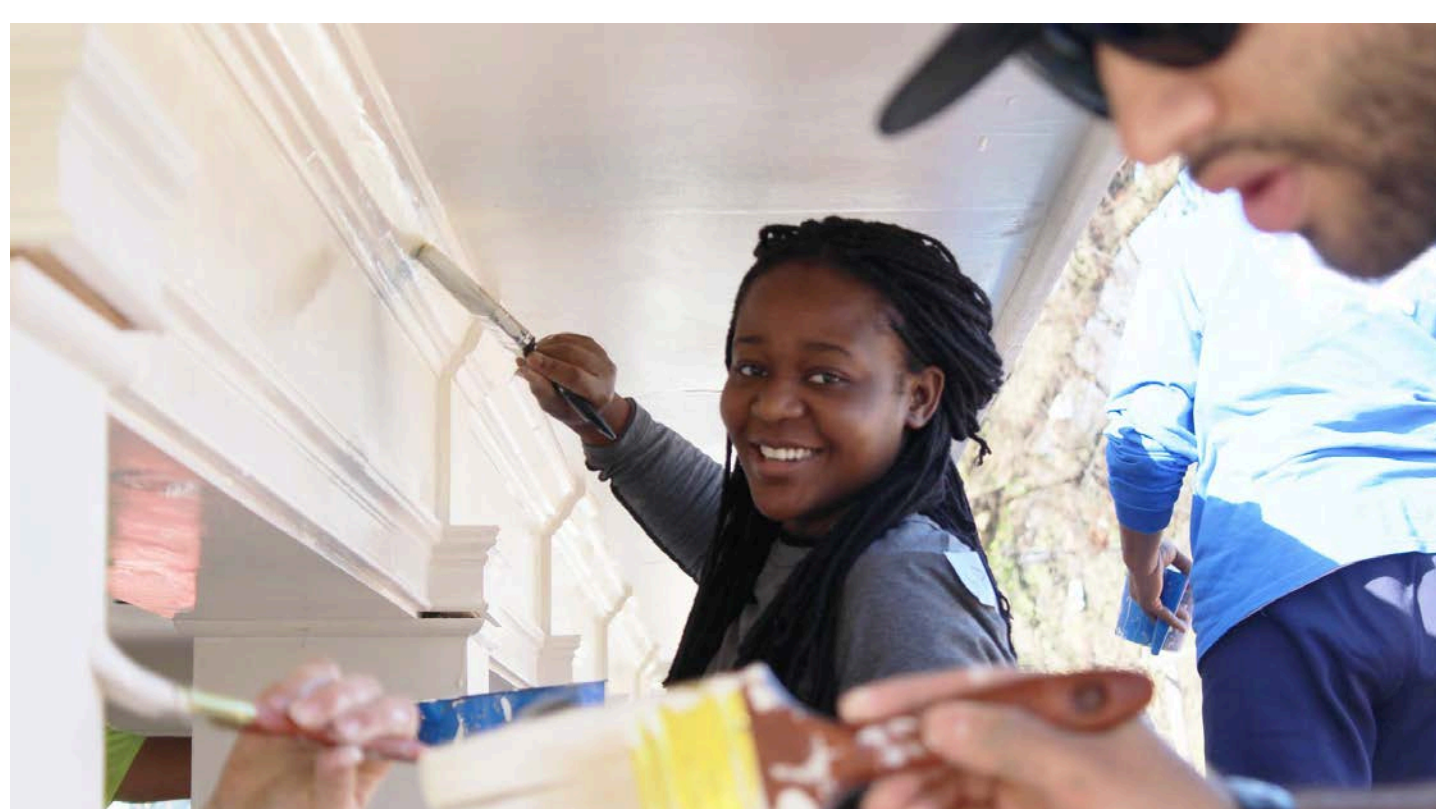


Beacon Voyages for Service (BVS) is a student run program within the Office of Student Leadership and Community Engagement that coordinates Alternative Break Programs.

In January, 2014, 11 students embarked on a two week road trip to take a comparative look at hunger and homelessness in the southern United States. Along the route they partnered with 8 different organizations to learn about the effects of hunger and homelessness in this region.

## Goals and Objectives

- Students will gain a more holistic understanding of the issues and challenges facing those experiencing hunger and homelessness throughout the southern United States.
- Students will become more educated on the history and culture of the people and organizations they serve to better understand how their service is impacting these communities.



## Impact

Students volunteered on several projects during their two week road trip including:

- Building houses with Habitat for Humanity in Tuscaloosa, AL
- Making organic compost with Nashville Food Project in TN
- Organized food pantries, food stores and donations in NC, TN, AL and LA
- Assisted with administration paperwork with Operation Stand Down in TN
- Served dinner at a homeless shelter in LA
- Spent time with homeless people and learned about their struggles throughout many organizations
- Toured the Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans and got an inside perspective of the struggles still taking place from Hurricane Katrina



## Other 2014 BVS Trips

### Spring Break:

New Orleans, LA - At Risk Youth and  
Las Marias, Puerto Rico – Farming and Sustainability

### Summer:

Orland, ME – Rural Poverty and  
Pine Ridge, SD – Native American Culture



## Contacts

### BVS Trip Leader

Brianna Reyes  
[Brianna.reyes001@umb.edu](mailto:Brianna.reyes001@umb.edu)

### BVS Coordinator

Laurene Plourde  
[Laurene.plourde@umb.edu](mailto:Laurene.plourde@umb.edu)

### Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Community Engagement

Heather Whitney  
[Heather.whitney@umb.edu](mailto:Heather.whitney@umb.edu)