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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

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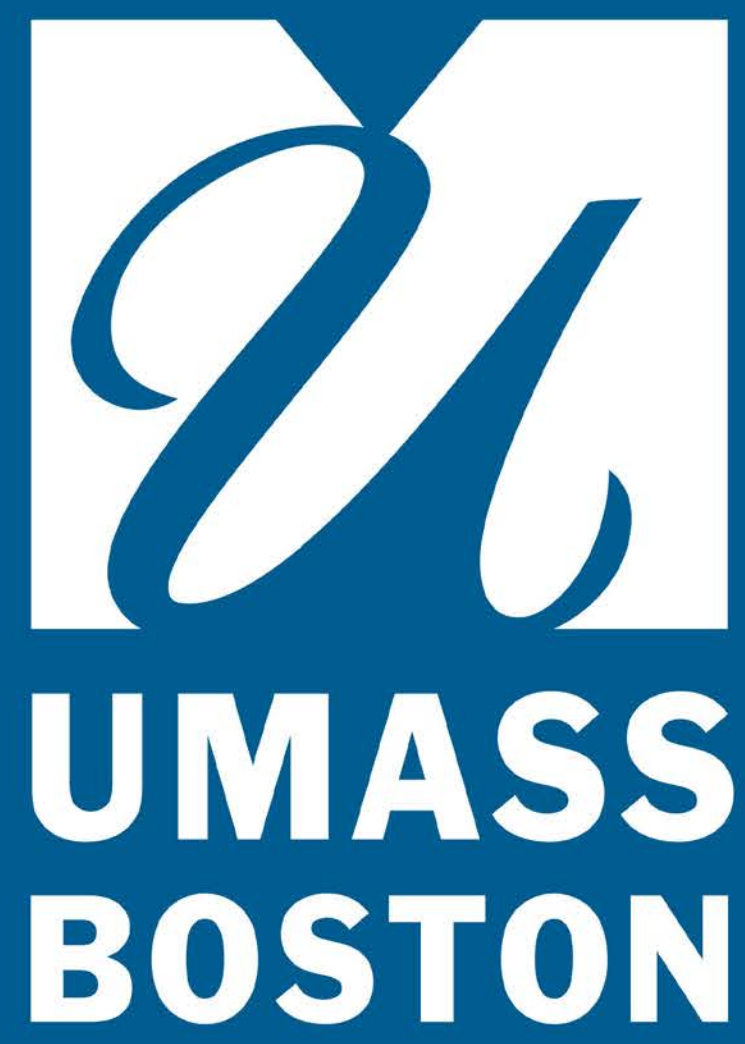
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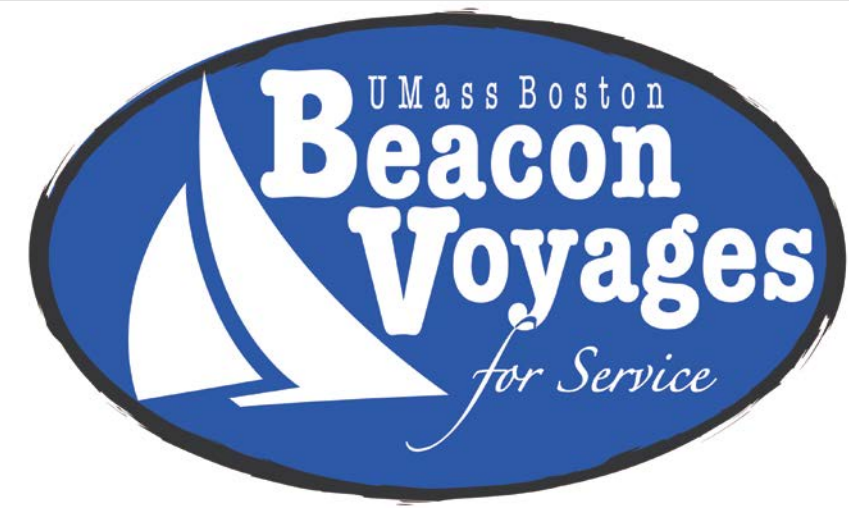
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Beacon Voyages for Service

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

Project Description

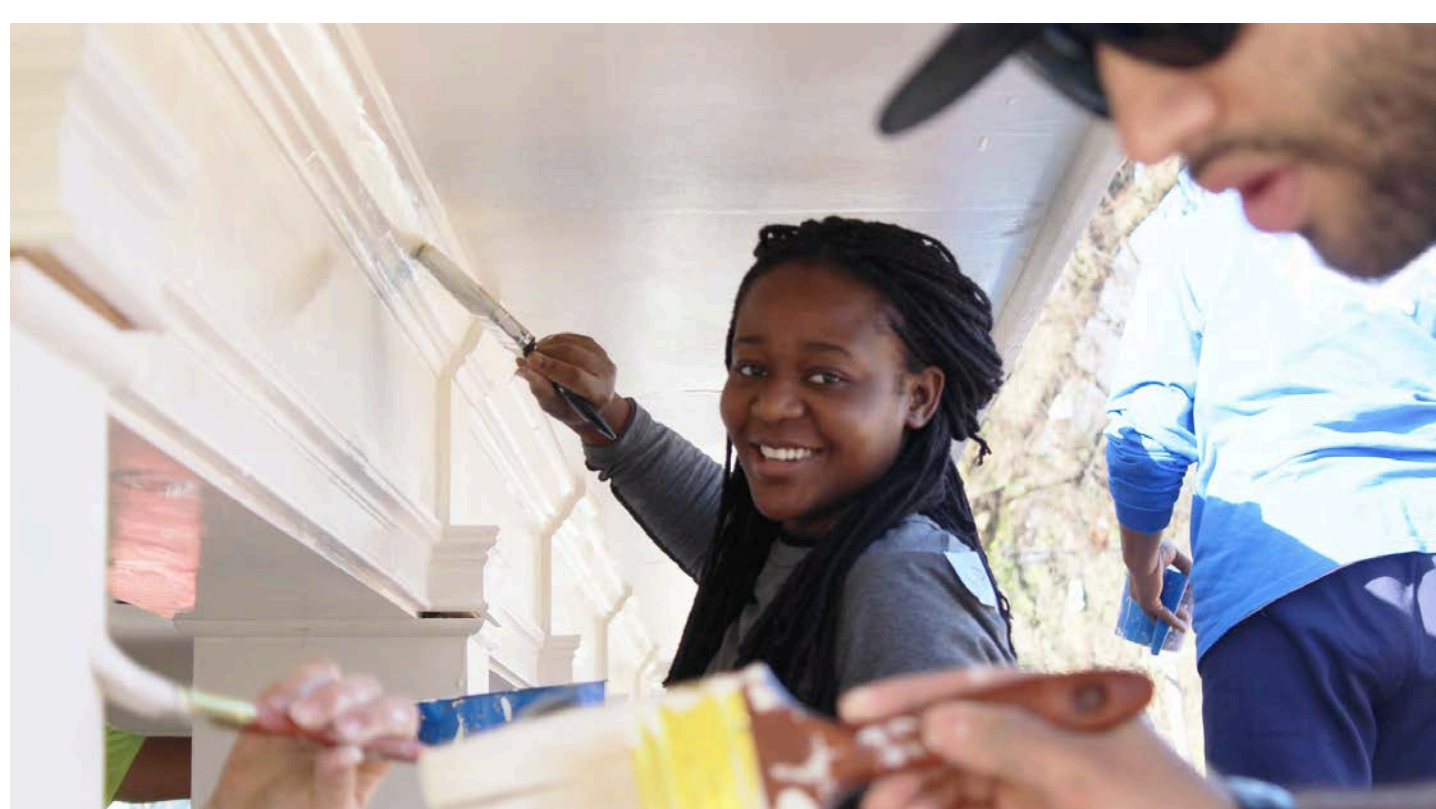


Beacon Voyages for Service (BVS) is a student run program within the Office of Student Leadership and Community Engagement that coordinates Alternative Break Programs.

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

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