



# Connections

American Humanics Campuses, Nonprofits, Students and Alumni

Spring 2009

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## AH Students Carry On Tradition of Volunteerism

Students in American Humanics programs at several schools around the country have been active in a number of volunteer efforts and projects, both in their own communities and elsewhere.

In March 2008, a group of AH students at **Grand Valley State University** spent their spring break putting in some hard work in the "Big Easy." Five students and AH Program Director Quincy Williams journeyed all the way from Michigan to participate in a service-learning project in Hurricane Katrina-ravaged New Orleans. The group repeated this "alternative spring break" in 2009, this time with 25 participants, working in both New Orleans and Biloxi, Miss.



More than two years after Katrina, this man's (far left) house was still only wood walls and flooring. ASU students helped make the home livable again.



ASU students gutted an abandoned nursing home to make way for redevelopment.

**Arizona State University** AH students also ventured to New Orleans last year, in a trip arranged through Operation Nehemiah, an organization in which one of the ASU alums is active. Students took part in a number of volunteer projects, including wetlands work for the Audubon Society, demolishing an abandoned nursing home in the 9th Ward and participating in ABC's "Extreme Makeover Home Edition" rebuilding of a church and neighborhood block. Seven ASU students contributed a total of 280 hours.

Closer to home, AH students at **University of Texas–San Antonio** coordinated the 15th annual Babcock Road Clean-up with the UTSA student organization VOICES (Volunteer Organization Involving Community, Education and Service), along with partners from City Year, Firstmark Credit Union and others. Over an entire weekend in late September, volunteers removed trash and beautified portions of Babcock Road and UTSA Boulevard, and also brought in more than 300 college and high school students to work on nine "done-in-a-day" service projects in downtown San Antonio.

Students in the AH program at **Kansas State University** kicked off a campaign for the March of Dimes Walk-athon (March for Babies) in February, boosting awareness and recruiting walkers for the three-mile walk on April 19, which serves as one of March of Dimes' biggest fundraisers, and the primary event for the