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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Seneca County Youth to Provide Relief Work in Tennessee**

What do you get when you combine over 70 high school students, eight adults, a 15 hour bus ride, and a week off from school? Alternative Spring Break 2008!

The Surge After School Program in conjunction with the Seneca County Youth Council, and the United Way of Seneca County is honored to be taking a group of high school students from Seneca County to help support the relief efforts in Macon County, Tennessee April 13-18, 2008.

“When we initially started looking into taking a group for a relief trip, the information said we needed 35 people – in our case, students. I wasn’t sure we would get that number. Then the applications started coming in and we easily hit thirty, then forty, and now we are over seventy students! This speaks volumes about the sense of community and support in Seneca County. This gives me hope that there will be an Alternative Spring Break 2,” said Jennifer George, Surge Program Coordinator.

Working through the National Relief Network ([www.nrn.org](http://www.nrn.org)), the group was originally slated to go to the St. Bernard Parish of New Orleans, but then the tornadoes touched down in Tennessee, killing several and causing massive devastation to homes, businesses, and even colleges.

The group will be working in Macon County, one of the hardest hit areas in Tennessee. The tornadoes destroyed over 170 homes, and left fields filled with debris making it close to impossible for local farmers to harvest their crops. Our team is eager to lend some of our muscle, and to encourage the local residents with our own sense of community.

Throughout the week of April 13<sup>th</sup>, we will be sending daily updates of our trip. We’d like to invite you to look for our updates, and watch as the students of our community learn, grow, and discover new things about themselves.