

New Bedford, MA

Housing Security Alternative Fall Weekend Break

NOVEMBER 13TH - 15TH



TABLE *of Contents*

1. Introduction
2. What are Alternative Breaks?
3. Program Focus & Details
4. Application

INTRODUCTION

*Student Program
Director (SPD)*

Roni Castañeda Bueso

Hi everyone! My name is Roni and I am a senior here at UConn. I've been involved with Community Outreach (CO) since 2023, starting as a participant and growing into leadership roles. This year, I'm excited to serve as the Student Program Director for the Housing Security Alternative Fall Weekend Break.

I'm passionate about community service, healthcare, and building meaningful connections with the communities we serve. I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone and making this weekend meaningful, fun, and memorable!

WHAT ARE *Alt. Breaks?*

UConn Community Outreach (CO) connects students with communities through meaningful service, learning, and leadership experiences. One of its programs, Alternative Breaks, gives students the opportunity to learn about social issues while working alongside community partners through direct service. Alternative Breaks take place during weekends and academic breaks and combine service, education, reflection, and team building. Each program focuses on a specific social issue, with our Fall Weekend Break focusing on housing security in New Bedford, Massachusetts.

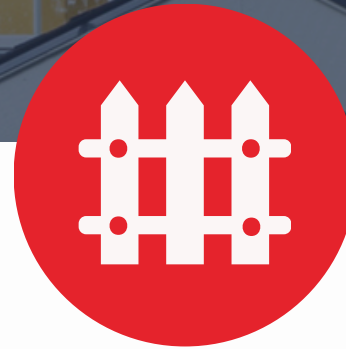


Program FOCUS



TEAMWORK

How can we grow as a team and have a positive impact on the community?



SAFE & STABLE LIVING CONDITIONS

What goes in to creating an environment that allows for both safe and affordable living conditions?



LOCAL CAUSES OF HOUSING INSECURITY

What are some of the causes that lead to housing insecurity?

QUICK *Info*

DATES

November 13th - 15th

The service-learning program will take place over a **three-day** weekend.

Students will leave campus Friday afternoon.

TRANSPORTATION

We will travel to New Bedford using **UConn-provided transportation**.

Eligible participants will also have the opportunity to volunteer as drivers and help support the team throughout the program.

PARTICIPANT COST

\$50

Covers transportation, food, and housing.

PREVIOUS

Community Partners



Gifts to Give was one of our previous community partners. Participants supported their mission by cleaning donated toys and sorting clothing to help prepare items for distribution to individuals and families in the community.



Mobile Ministries was another community partner that participants worked with to support individuals facing housing insecurity. Participants helped distribute food, toiletries, clothing, and other essential items to community members in need.

A Day in SERVICE

Disclaimer: This is only a sample schedule, and not every day of the program will look exactly the same.

7:00-8:00 AM

Wake-up, Get Ready,
Breakfast, Etc.

8:00-9:00 AM

Drive Over to Service
Site

9:00-12:00 PM

Work with 1st
Community Partner

12:00-1:00 PM

Lunch Break

1:00-5:00 PM

Work with 2nd
Community Partner

5:00-7:00 PM

Cook and Eat Dinner

7:00-8:00 PM

Group Reflection
Facillitated by SPD

8:00-11:00 PM

Free Time/Bedtime

FAQs & DETAILS

THE EXPERIENCE: *What will we be doing?*

Participants will engage in hands-on service with local community partners while learning about housing security and the New Bedford community.

Do I need previous service experience?

No prior experience is needed! We welcome anyone who is ready to learn, contribute, and engage with the community.

SERVICE & INTENTIONAL LIVING *What is the Alt. Break experience like?*

Alt. Breaks emphasize service, community, and living humbly. Participants embrace simple accommodations, shared roles, and intentional living throughout the program.

What does “living humbly” mean? We will embrace simple accommodations, prepare our own meals, share responsibilities, and be mindful of our consumption so we can focus on service, learning, and community.

WHY JOIN? *What will I gain from this experience?*

You'll build meaningful connections, gain new perspectives, and deepen your understanding of housing security through hands-on service and reflection. Along the way, you'll meet new people as you become part of a team of UConn students and build meaningful relationships with the New Bedford community.



APPLY BY
SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2026

Limited spots available



THANK YOU!

We look forward to welcoming you as part of our team and working together to uplift our communities!

Visit our website for additional information:
<https://communityoutreach.uconn.edu/alternativebreaks/>

Contact

Roni
Student Program Director
uconn.co.housing@gmail.com