Date: ______________

To: ______________________________

From: The University of Southern Mississippi,
School of Social Work

Re: Student Volunteer Hours
Social Work 301 – Introduction to Social Work

Students in the School of Social Work will be completing 40 hours of volunteer service along with their introductory course work. We feel that volunteer service within an agency will give students a first-hand view of social workers at work. It will further give them the opportunity to become more aware of and involved in actual service in different professional social service settings.

We expect students to spend at least 4-5 hours per week over the course of the semester in your agency. Students may have had very little or no experience working with clients. For this reason, supervision of the student from a licensed social worker and feedback regarding the student’s work is very important. This will allow the student to become more effective in working with clients. We are hopeful that through the volunteer experience, the student(s) will begin to determine whether he/she will be interested in entering the profession of social work.

A service-learning placement confirmation agreement is to be completed by both the student and the supervisor. Also, at the end of the 40-hour placement, supervisors will be asked to evaluate the student’s performance during his/her time with the agency by completing an evaluation form and discussing it with the student. The evaluation form can be sent by mail to the faculty member/instructor or sent along with the student. At the end of the experience, students will be required to turn in a daily log and submit a summary of their experience as part of their work for the course.

We certainly appreciate your willingness to allow student volunteers within your agency and trust that it will be a positive experience for you and the student(s).

For further information please contact Delories Williams @ 601 266-5915.