

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 8, 2009



Kansas Corps Provides Disaster Assistance to Chapman Community

Chapman, Kan. - On April 4, 2009, more than 50 students and sponsors from six colleges and universities across the state converged on the town of Chapman, Kan. serving the community through various projects. The Chapman community was devastated by a tornado in June, 2008, and although a great deal of rebuilding, cleanup and repair has been done, much remains to be accomplished. Kansas Corps brought the community one step closer to accomplishing their goals.

Kansas Corps purpose is to unite student volunteers from Kansas' colleges and universities to serve the public service needs of the state of Kansas; Kansas Corps is higher education serving the public good. With a single phone call, this group of college student volunteers can be mobilized to provide disaster recovery, social services and/or community development assistance to any region of the state. Striving to assist communities in attaining their goals, Kansas Corps is equipped to provide a wide variety of services.

Kansas Corps participants included students from Pratt Community College, Bethany College, Fort Hays State University, Hesston College, Kansas State University and K-State Salina. The students performed a variety of jobs, including: removing metal from a creek bed, filling holes left by tree removal, insulating, framing, dry walling and resetting windows of a home, cleaning yards, painting a house, repairing a deck and installing a porch rail.

Joyce Dickinson, Chapman resident, said, "Without the help of volunteers like this group, Chapman could never have made the progress it has."

Kansas Corps was able to assist with all the tasks that Chapman residents had requested prior to the service event. Said Chantelle Arnold, project coordinator for Kansas Corps, "Overall, this project was a remarkable success. It really shows the tremendous value that college student volunteers can provide to the state of Kansas."

--end--