

**Community Partner:** Starkville Manor Nursing Home

**Team name:** The Carebears

**Team Members:** Alicia Gatlin, Michelle McDowell, Raven Perkins, Brooke Schasteen, Jordan Shumaker, Kenton Taylor

The **Carebears Action Team** completed **148 hours of service** to Starkville Manor Nursing Home, **logged 93 visits**, and **traveled 575 miles** during the fall semester of 2008. The purpose of their work was “to bring happiness to the individuals who do not have the life that they used to have. To bring joy to them by helping them relive their youthful days. To help them feel like they have an extended family, care from others, and to change the perception that they have been forgotten.” The Carebears Action Team addressed their purpose through:

- Visiting the residents of the Starkville Manor Nursing Home twice a week
- Developing a festive event that the residents could enjoy, as well as assist with decorating for the event
- And helping make gift baskets, arts and crafts, etc., so they can give their family something for the holidays.

The Carebears team realized the project benefit to their community partner exemplified in this statement of achievement: “At the beginning of the semester, we called ourselves the Carebears. Now that the semester is coming to an end and we finished our huge project, we are happy to say we really are the definition of Carebears. We are a group of six fabulous young men and women that actually care about our community partner. Not only did we create our festive event, the prom, but we have done crafts with them for each holiday. Even after Day One is complete we plan to go back and visit and bring them Christmas presents that we used some of our budget money on for them. Our ‘One night in paradise prom’ was truly a night in paradise for the residents. Everyone that attended, young, old, disabled, or able to walk and dance enjoyed themselves the entire night. With the creative, bright, and fun decorations, the music and the awesome tropical prom attire made the night the best it could have been.”