



Caring for the Community

As a regional institution, Southeastern Louisiana University takes pride in collaborating with the communities it serves. In terms of philanthropy, Southeastern's faculty and staff members annually support the local fundraising efforts of the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, and United Way.

Following 15 years of tradition, Southeastern once again hosted the 2011 Relay For Life of South Tangipahoa at North Oak Park. Through various fundraising initiatives, Southeastern teams contributed \$23,423.67 to the American Cancer Society through its signature event.

In Relay For Life, participants celebrate the lives of those who have survived cancer, as well as those who have succumbed to the disease. Funds raised go toward cancer treatment research, prevention education for the public, and advocacy for laws and policies to assist individuals and families dealing with the disease.

Southeastern is also a long-time supporter of the American Heart Association's Heart Walk. Faculty and staff are encouraged to raise funds and take part not only in the Tangipahoa Heart Walk around campus, but also in the regional Northshore event that takes place on a different date at Fontainebleau State Park in Mandeville. The Heart Walk is a call to action that evokes active participation in exercise and reducing the risk of heart disease and stroke. Last year Southeastern's Heart Walk saw the participation of 70 walkers who raised a total of \$7,277.

Additionally, the generosity of the Southeastern family was recognized with a United Way Company Lifetime Award, which was presented at the 2011 kickoff of the annual fundraising drive. The award recognizes the top companies and organizations that raise the most dollars for the community through their United Way workplace campaigns. Since 1995, more than \$454,300 has been donated by faculty and staff to the United Way of Southeast Louisiana. The university was also named a Top 10 Company for the Tangipahoa United Way campaign for its collections of nearly \$35,000 in 2010.

PHOTO: Southeastern student-athletes lend their assistance at the registration table for Relay for Life. Students, faculty and staff are actively involved in community affairs. Teams often compete among themselves in fundraising activities for organizations, such as the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society.