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By Kim Billings
UNH News Bureau

May 8, 2001

DURHAM, N.H. -- About 100 students in Professor Sam Smith's Food & Society class will present a poster session Thursday, May 10, on the results of their service-learning projects with community agencies throughout the Seacoast, including the Salvation Army in Portsmouth, the Oyster River Middle School and Langdon Place in Dover.

Free and open to the public, the open house is slated to take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Rooms 334 and 338 of the Memorial Union Building.

The class is a collaborative partnership between the class, Animal Science & Nutrition, the Writing Center and the Partnership for Social Action. Area agencies that have benefited from the public service included AIDS Response Seacoast; Kid's Café at the Manchester Salvation Army, Barrington Middle School, St. Thomas More Church, My Friend's Place, Cross Roads House, New Heights and numerous others.

According to Marianne Fortescue, director of the Partnership for Social Action, projects ranged from serving meals to children at the Salvation Army in Portsmouth, to planning a theme party for a group of elderly residents at Langdon Place in Dover to working with running a cooking class with teens at New Heights Teen Center in Portsmouth.

"This is the third year that service-learning has been a requirement for Sam Smith's class and it gets better every year," Fortescue says. This is the first year students have had the opportunity to share their work
with the community.

Representatives from community agencies are expected to attend Thursday's open house. "We're hoping that this will generate some excitement on the part of other faculty and agencies wishing to engage students in this type of learning experience," according to Fortescue.

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