From a young age, Wendy realized that she had a passion for volunteerism. Throughout her life, she has been involved in lots of service work including Meals on Wheels, community service through assisted living homes, service through the Delta Gamma sorority, and more. All of these service opportunities have led Wendy to become very passionate about service and what it entails.

When Wendy became aware of the Alternative Breaks program, she was interested immediately: “When hearing about the Alternative Breaks program, I knew this was a great opportunity to live out my passion. The Alternative Break was a wonderful opportunity to serve and grow as a student and person”.

Although there were many memories and experiences, Wendy felt that one particular moment stood out from the trip. “When in Hollywood for the Alternative Breaks program, I felt I made a difference on many different occasions. The moment that stood out the most to me, however, was at The Center at Blessed Sacrament. While at The Center, I participated in what they called their ‘music hour’. Sitting and talking with the participants made everyone feel special and heard. Sharing the gift of music is something that is very meaningful to me, and I was blessed to share that moment with all who participated”

This experience in general and the people in particular had a strong impact on Wendy: “I can say with full confidence that each and every person I met while on this trip impacted me and left a mark on me.” Her understanding of the Hollywood community and issues related to poverty, hunger, and homelessness grew deeper. Her commitment to service, kindness, and empathy also increased and challenged her to grow as a person.

Wendy is proud of the work she has done and the impact she has had through the Alternative Breaks program and she highly recommends it to other students. “I would like others to know the Alternative Breaks program will greatly impact your life. Whether you have been doing service all your life, or this is your first time, Alternative Breaks leaves you with strong feelings of understanding and compassion. I would recommend Alternative Breaks to each and every person because it gives you the opportunity to grow as a person and to help others grow as well.”