

Kenu Howard

Reflection Journal 7

Field Placement and Seminar

The combination of reading the chapter as well as doing hours at a community sponsored organization has opened my eyes greatly to the impact of communities. Growing up, all I wanted to do was finish up high school and move away from my community of Bellport. I did not value it at all. I never felt as though I fit in, which was fine, but it did make me separate myself from it. Now, I find myself working hands on in my own community and I love it.

Lighthouse is HUGE. It's impact is felt all throughout Long Island. This shows me that when a community comes together for a greater cause, it can be so powerful. This lesson also let me know that we cannot wait for change. We cannot sit idle and expect someone to initiate change because it is a good idea. If we see needs that can be met, we do have the power to come together and meet them. We can be catalysts for change.

All in all, I see strength and power in communities. Even if I do end up settling down and basing my life in another state one day, I still feel inspired to stay connected to the community of Bellport. As God advances me, I want to use it to give back in anyway I can. My community can be the one that raises the next black president of the United States of America. My community can one day also produce a researcher who finds the cure for cancer. All it takes is us to use our strengths and gifts towards the communities, and that can evoke positive change!