Katelin Garcia 9/25/13

HUS 1207 Human service seminar

Professional Essay

I was born in Bellevue hospital in Manhattan on March 13, 1993. I was raised in Brooklyn N.Y. all my life. I attended a couple of different schools during my life. The first school I attended was P.S.123, until the fourth grade. After that, I attended Saint Frances Cabrini a catholic school from fifth grade until eight grades. I attended Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School for four years and now I am currently attending New York City College of Technology. The degree in which I am pursuing is a bachelor’s in Human Services for now, but I am thinking about perusing my masters in Human Services.

I have decided to become a human service professional because I have always wanted a career that I would enjoy waking up to. My mother was a great influence in my decision to go into this profession. She has a master’s degree in social work and is currently getting her license. My mother went through a lot raising my siblings and me on her own, and I believe that’s this profession has helped her through some difficult times. I not only went into human services to help people but to help myself understand people and relate to my mother. I was intrigued by how many opportunities there are in human services. No matter where one go’s whether it is another state or country Human Services professionals are needed.

Some of my professional strengths are that I am a hard worker, punctual, and I work well in a team or group as well as on my own. I think these strengths will enhance my effectiveness for professional practice because in Human Services you have to work together to get the job done. In Human Services 110% must be given, and I believe I can do that. Some of my personal strengths are that I am bilingual, I am aware of other cultures, and I have great intuition. I am a very easy going person and I like to have fun but I understand that there is a time and a place.

The client population I would most like to work with would be the Hispanic and Latino population. I would like to work for an agency that deals with this population and adolescent pregnancy because it is just something that really interests me. I think I could learn a great deal from this population such as why the rates are so high? How we can change this? What needs to happen to help these young people? A unique quality for this population would be language which can be a challenge for some. The strength in the Hispanic/Latino population is that many of them do seek help from agency. I want to serve this population because it’s something I am interested in. The neighborhood I spent all my life in is mainly Hispanic/Latino and I see a large number of young teen pregnancies and I wonder why. I guess the real reason I want to work with this population is because I am curious.

I have learned in human services that one must have certain traits to be an effective human service worker. Some of these traits are being genuine, and empathetic. Empathy is the experience of understanding another person's condition from the individuals perspective. It can be hard to feel empathetic in a situation that maybe one does not understand or does not agree with, but this is an essential tool in the Human Services field. I believe that I am becoming empathetic when I hear of certain situations but I am not exactly there yet. Sometimes people do not know the difference between empathy and sympathy which can also lead to problems when dealing with clients.

I envision my career path as starting off a few months after college, and sending my resume to agencies. I am hoping to be employed within those following months. Within a few years as my resume builds, possibly looking for a job at an agency that I really want to work for. I even see myself continuing with school, getting my masters and even starting a different major such as culinary. I expect my career to look like something I can enjoy and continue in.

I believe that Human Services is my calling. I am passionate about what I am doing and what I have yet to accomplish, and I cannot wait to see how hard I can push myself. I think that this essay has given me even more motivation to continue working hard; it has allowed me to see how much I really do enjoy human services.