Kaylena Gonzalez

HUS1207

I was born on a hot summer day of July, 17, 1993. I was raised in Brooklyn. The area is called cypress hills which is the north part of East New York. I was the first to graduate high school and purse a college degree in my family. I started my journey in city tech. I didn’t know what I wanted to major in. So I started college in the Liberal arts program. I was lost and classified as undeclared. The one thing I knew about my self was that I loved to help people. Then one day while looking through the majors of city tech I stumbled upon Human Services. From then on it was history.

The very next semester after the switch I was taking my first Human service class. HUS1101. I enter the room thinking I was there to learn how to help people and that it will be easy. The professor came in and told the class “What is Human Services to you?” Someone raised their hand and said “To help people”. The professor laughed and said “If that is what you all believe then you need to get out of this class but if you are willing to learn what it is really about then stay. If you think this is an easy A, go.” I was all ears from there. Throughout that semester I learned that human services is about empowering people and making a change. I always wanted to do that just didn’t know how to put it in words. I learned that it wasn’t going to be easy in this profession and I wouldn’t get a great paying job either. What I took from it was that I wanted to make a difference in my community, in my society. Not only to help people. It’s so much more than that. There is going to be stressful times dealing with others problems but if I stay focus on my mission to change the person’s life then I am one step closer to my ultimate goal. I’m a human service professional to impact, to inspire, and to change people for the better.

I live in a neighborhood that isn’t the best of them in Queens. It’s diverse with all different kinds of people living here. Growing up here helped me see how it is to live in a community like this. Everyone is all on top of each other, struggling to make ends meet. This can help me relate to the people within urban cities. As a human service worker I need to understand the struggles of everyday life in the population I work with. As well as understanding the cultural differences in people. I can understand that different people have different life morals and practices. I have empathy towards peoples feeling and issues. In my family I was taught to care for others. Never judge a book by its cover. As a young girl I asked my mother about homeless people. My mother responded with a smile saying it can be you one day so go give them a dollar.

I have worked as an afterschool teacher for 2 years. In doing that I realized I loved working with the youth and feeding them the knowledge about the world around them. The power to change the world is within them. I grew up in a Hispanic home that most members in my family haven’t finished high school. I saw them struggle in the world. I want to empower the future by starting with today’s youth. As a child I was taught to keep strong and keep going. I saw around me that people don’t have others to console in. I want the youth to console in me. To impact the future by teaching the morals I learned as a child. Children can view the world in a way that most cant. They can see the good in everything and everyone until they are taught not to. I want to maintain the youths view and inspire them that anything I possible. The world is a hard place to grow up in. To help the youth I would need to take a lot of early childhood and adolescent classes as well as be certified. I want to be a guidance counselor. I would need to get a Master degree and be license. I don’t just want to help these kids. I want to change the future. I want to impact their life and world. I want to make my stamp on my community. So when I’m old and unable to tend to myself the youth of today will be the one’s supporting me. As a human service provider, I would need to learn the skill in identifying and selecting interventions which promote growth and goal attainment. I will need to be able to conduct a competent problem analysis and to select those strategies, services or interventions that are appropriate to helping the youth attain a desire. I need to know how to referee, advocate, or direct counseling. With me learning these skills I would be able to better assist the youth in their struggles.

I envision that following my graduation in Bachelors degree, I will be getting a job as a college access counselor then save enough money to continue on my Master’s as a guidance Counselor. It will take me 2 years to accomplish that. In the mean time I will be helping students enter college and stay in college. I want to do this in my community with an organization called Cypress Hills local Development, College steps. After I get my Masters in Guidance counselor, I want to work in a High school called Lane campus in my community. I want to be able to empower the youth to finish high school and finish college. I will hone my skill of empathy and understanding diversity. In the high school there are many different kinds of student as well as cultures. I will use my empathy and understanding to empower them and encourage them.

Being a Human Service provider is more than just helping people. It’s to enable people to live more satisfying, more independent, and more productive lives, through the use of society’s knowledge, resources, and technical advance. The mission of human services is to encourage a practice that involves working at all levels of society with the whole person approach, in the process of promoting the independence of individuals or groups, making informal or formal human services systems more well-organized and successful, and advocating for positive social change within society. It’s all about change within the person will then makes a change in the world.