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Professor Malam

Human Service Seminar

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My name is Victoria Hardwick and I am inspiring to be a Human Service Worker. As a child I knew I wanted to help people, growing up in the 80's in Brooklyn, NY. I saw a lot of poverty growing up and I knew I wanted to do something that would help these less in fortunate. Growing up I feel I had a lot to give, and I had both my parents that loved me and gave me. Where I can share the same loved, to those who did not experience the same affection from their loved ones. When I attend Kindergarten at P.S. 288 I loved my teacher Mrs. Green, she made me want to be a teacher and more to begin helping and try to make everyone feel good about their day or life in general.

As time moved on I moved from living in the diversity part of Brooklyn and moved to a part of Brooklyn where poverty was live and well. Where Crack was in everyone homes and killing was every second of the day, morning or night. This is where I seen the light of life that means, I'm learning the way people live their life, do not have to live like this. At the age of 10 yrs old in the 90's I seen all this happening and something have to be done. I moved on and went to High school and graduated from there life had stop for me, because I went my whole life in school. To me school had gotten to be over whelming I believe I did not need it to accomplish my goals and by going to back to further my education. Being out of school for 11yrs I decided to return I knew I was ready. Being out of school for that long I saw a lot and seen a lot and experience a lot of heart ache pain and a lot of disappoint and some were good, but the

bad weight more than the good.

Returning back to school I went to Kingsborough Community College and I knew what I wanted to do even more now, because I been through a lot at this point. I did not take my major there but I still took classes leading towards this major. Going to a Community College was a experience I will never forget, because it was like being on a real university campus. Then I finish up with Kingsborough College, now I'm presently attending New York City Of Technology and I'm in my 2<sup>nd</sup> semester and this is school where I started up my major in Human Service.

When you ask why do I want become a Human Service Worker and beside helping others? That really makes me think and focus the path of my life and how I'm made to help. Because many of my jobs were for basic needs of life and the money was just a check that I made to get by, not nothing I love and what I love doing is working with people.

For awhile I kept working those jobs, after that I went to College earning my Associates Degree and then go on for my bachelor's degree nothing like the present time. Attending my first semesters at CityTech I had my Intro Human Service class, after taking the class I believe in myself more to do the job and it was more then just helping people. It was job where you see cases that you can handle and cases that need special attention or cases you can not handle because could be that it emotional attachment situation. Where you need to refer this person to another worker. The Human Services field goes a long way They include knowledge, skills, attitudes and values, and experience. I believe by working this field I will be given an opportunity to learn some of the vast knowledge that comes with working with people of all ages. I plan to further my knowledge by taking more

Human Service courses and these classes will broaden my understanding of how one is to perform in an ethical manner while delivering services that not only benefit, but encourage people to live and act in a functioning manner. I found that I really enjoy Human Services. I am looking forward to working with people and helping them. In this field I know that there will be ups and downs and that every day isn't going to be success story, in fact more times than not it is just the opposite, but I'm willing to be apart of that and take on the demanding challenges that come my way.

My personal and professional strength for professional practice is I develop over the years the knowledge and skills that is necessary to provide counseling and related services to diverse populations. I been to agency location, read and did research , evaluate and apply professional and academic literature to practice. Attended counseling theory, demonstrate continuing professional development, research and practice into professional settings. After carefully planning my degree course I wanted to make sure that if I applied for a job in the Human Service Field that I met the criteria that they were looking for. I network myself by speaking to a couple social workers and a supervisor of the case management team to satisfy this inquiry. The social workers thought it was a very well the way my degree course is structured and several of my classes are going to give me the knowledge I am going need to get by in this field. I also asked is the classes I am taking are the best preparation for what I am going to be experiencing in the field. The supervisor of the case management team thought my degree course looked great and said that I already had a good start by working in the Internship Program in Human Service. She said on top of having the knowledge and tools these classes will give me, I have the experience that many of the Human Service Agencies look for in their employees.

I believe that I have put together a strong program which will serve me well as I continue in my career in the Human Services field.

The client population I would like to work with the youth because working in the field of human services is different from the other fields, yet rewarding career. Human services workers engage with diverse populations and carry different titles to include therapists, case managers, social workers, counselors, etc. Regardless, what a title a human service worker may hold the communication between a client and professional is vital. Working with a client it include specific communication techniques, and ways I would establish a working relationship, boundary issues, and recommendations or referrals to certain groups for this client.

I have actual story that I experience I've had with a student where I was working in a residential center for troubled youth. I will refer to my student as Carla Jones. Carla is a 15 year old Black female. Her mother and father are still alive, but she currently lives with her mother. Carla has 1 siblings, a brothers, one of whom has been in and out of jail and seems to be the biggest influence in Carla's life right now. Carla's father is a well known drug dealer and has also been in and out of jail, and is now trying to be a part of his daughter's life. Carla's mother has good intentions of ensuring her daughter's receives the proper treatment, but is losing patience and losing control and she is running out of options to provide a stable home for Carla. This is one of the incident I wondered why we allow our cities are suffering with so much inequality and neglect. Why is it that it takes a for a child to get hurt to get for people to pay attention or help? I realized now is that, I wanted to do more than watch. By recognizing the needs of people in this environment, being a social work there are wide range of areas for social intervention,

from private to direct services and action. Social workers do not just study of poverty, they aim to do help do something about it. Social workers participating a wide range of movements which bridge the gap from individual to community needs. Much of the process begins with a healthy home and a meal. Social work and human services are about helping create healthy communities.

The way I envision myself in career path the time I graduation in ten years is to be a Human Services Professional to be that someone who can advocate for a person who is not able or not yet able to deal with issues in a healthy way. I'm learning how to be the best and to help empower people in changing their situation by believing in themselves. I believe that people have the answers within themselves, but may need help getting in touch with their thoughts within. As human services providers, I strive to a good model with a healthy behavior, and include the fact that we are human, and all need support from our peers, and we can make mistakes in life.

Everyone at some point in their lives needs help. This help could range from help with their bills to help with adequate shelter or even help with everyday living skills. No matter what the reason is for the help, it is an inevitable that people need it. In these times of need, people may wonder who they can turn to for help. This question often goes unanswered because people are so unsure. Rest assured, however, that Human Services is here to help. People just need to know where to look and even how to look for this help. Goal of Human Services there can also be different goals for different types of human service workers. Depends on the setting of the workplace, these goals can range from teaching a basic living skill to a consumer to finding the help that someone needs, such as job assistance or even helping with finding funding for a higher education. All of these

things would be considered part of the human services line of work.

The bottom line on human services work is the fact that people in this field set out to do one thing and one thing only, to improve and enhance the quality of life to those that are served. If you could sit down and talk to a human service worker, the one thing that they would tell you is that they want to make a difference in the life of someone that needs help.