Francy Rios

February 3rd, 2014

Writing for Media –Professor Gillespie

*Where do homeless people go?*

The angle and focus that I have chosen for this topic is very broad. By broad I mean that I won’t only write about adults or children; I have chosen to write about both because I believe that it give me more to write about and educate. I will be researching and writing about homeless people, of all ages, in both Nassau and Suffolk County. First I plan on starting with statistics regarding the homeless in long island; this way I can inform the readers and give them the understanding of why this is important. I then plan on targeting the question directly naming some of the places homeless people can go; putting out events hosted for the homeless, and gives an insight on how these homeless shelters and homes can positively affect the life of the homeless.

*Current facts, quotes, info;*

Poverty in Long Island is increasing at a incredible rate. Long Island families are becoming prone to hunger. According to LongIsland.com, basing the statistics on the 2010 Census, New York State’s poverty has increased substantially, and child poverty in particular is an unbelievable 21.2% in New York State.

There are about 3,300 homeless people on Long Island, a 3.4 percent increase from 2010, according to data from Long Island Coalition for the homeless.

Long Island’s homeless shelters are numerous and provide both residential and non-residential services including support groups, children’s services, counseling and education. (longisland.com)

HELP Suffolk has served over 4,000 families and places approximately 60 percent of families into permanent housing, since 1990.

In 1995 HELP Suffolk, in partnership with HUD, established an Employment Readiness Program. Since its inception, approximately 500 individuals have secured employment in over 120 companies throughout Suffolk County.

According to New York Times ““On Long Island, the problem of homelessness can be camouflaged by its general affluence and by the system that takes in the homeless — shelters on the Island are small, mostly unmarked homes, run by churches or nonprofit groups, that resemble boarding houses. The homeless population is also spread out — living in campgrounds and parks and on beaches — and is harder to see and to count.”

Nassau is currently working on a 10 year plan (will elaborate)

Long Island’s homeless shelters are numerous and provide both residential and non-residential services for people of all ages, races, and genders. By typing in key words on Google, I have managed to land on a directory of shelters for the homeless which showed over 40 shelters.