Wajeeha Kamal

UGS-101-311 - Big Ideas Seminar

Professor German, Professor Lee

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Field/Blog Notes: Week 1

I will be volunteering at the Eastside Community Action Center in the Virtual After School Program. I did not begin volunteering this week because I did not receive a reply to my email. Eventually, I received an email stating I had to fill out two forms. I have completed them. One is a General Volunteer Application, and another is a Center Registry Clearance Request. Most-likely, orientation and volunteering will begin next week.

I chose to volunteer at Eastside because I felt it would build my understanding behind educational inequity and its intersection with race and poverty. My research paper discussed this in-depth. Through this opportunity, I would like to learn how to build connections with children in a healthy, safe, and friendly manner. Understanding the trials and tribulations children face along with their mental/emotional state is important. They are at the forefront of a highly complex world and their needs should be met and listened to. Children tend to be incredibly blunt and honest and I think this will prove insightful and interesting. They are looked upon as innocent and ignorant; nonetheless, I think this is an incomplete narrative. In addition, children view life in a manner we do not and can bring a new perspective on education I have not yet been exposed to. This opportunity will be a means for self-growth. I am ecstatic to help and spend time with children!