November 10, 2008

Maroon Tiger
Morehouse College
830 Westview Dr., SW
Atlanta, GA

To Whom It May Concern:

On Friday, November 7th, 2008, I witnessed an exceptional group of Atlanta University Center young men and women from all types of different backgrounds, sacrifice for the whole and humble themselves to serve the best of the West End community.

After 141 years of service in the community and creating Renaissance men, this was the first time in the history of the college feeding the homeless. This successful collaborative effort stood on the heels of Morehouse Student Services, Archer Hall Recreational Facility, Student Government Association, AUC Drama Ministry, Warren Memorial United Methodist Church, Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Holsey Temple CME Church, and Chosen 300 in Philadelphia.

Whether it was cleaning tables, playing with families, or serving as security, it was a blessing and collectively we accomplished our goal. To some this was the first time, and to others this was just a continuation to their livelihood, but I will admit, that regardless of how many times I have served in the community, last Friday was a punctilious and memorable moment to me and the people that stood with me. Just to name a few of the servant leaders that played valuable key roles include but are not limited to Perry Culverson, Archer Hall Facility Manager, Stephen Cuff, Maurice Williams, Minister Robert Hughes, Evan Waddy-Farr, Pastor Brian Jenkins, Pastor G. Miles Williams, Chukwudi Nwadibia, and the whole SGA Street Team.

Hearing the comments and responses from the invited guests spoke volumes. Our hospitality spoke for itself. We built relationships, gave advice, and was encouragement to those who have thrown in the towel. From starting the event on time, to the cheerleading as they were ushered in the dining area, the wonderful AUC Drama Ministry and their ministering, the presence of the whole football team, and finally to goodbyes, the effort comes on the heels of strong teamwork and great individuals.

This collaborative effort will not be the first or last time we reach our hand back to the community and become a resource and an open hand. I believe that when Jesus the Christ
cleansed the feet of the disciples, a man packed with so much power and authority, humbled himself to clean what is recognized as the filthiest part of the body. The implication behind Jesus’ actions is directed to us as we matriculate through the fine walls of these prestigious institutions, we too must humble ourselves and “clean” those citizens who are looked over, despised, forgotten about, and laughed at and make them our top priority and bring service to them.

Consider this, what keeps me going is not how much money I will make or how great or successful I will be, but rather how significant I will be in the lives of our elders, friends, and our youth. It is a moral obligation to serve because not only do we need one another to survive, but at the end of the day the only thing that makes us any different is that if it had not been for the Grace of God.

Shabach and remember Service instead of Serve-US,

John T. Brice
Community Service Co-Chair
Morehouse College SGA