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Civic Engagement Reflection

At home I am involved with a local non-profit organization. Usually I work at the food pantry and during the summer I coordinate their Summer Lunch Program. I believe that it is extremely important to give back to your community and/or stay involved.

For this project I decided to do my civic duty differently. I have always wanted to write a letter to an elected official, but I have never done it. I thought this would be the perfect time to try it for the first time. The first step I took was researching “how to write a letter to an elected official”. A website gave great bullet points on how to go about it. I pulled from the sight to help me construct my letter.

After I researched more information on Governor Paterson’s proposed budget cut to education. On campus I hear about the higher education budget cut and how this would affect a large part of my campus community. As I researched more I realized he proposed cutting even more money from statewide school districts. Both of these budget cuts are important to my peers now and future students and school. I wrote the letter, and then e-mailed it to Governor Paterson on his government sight.

Now that I know how to write a letter and fight for what I think is right by calling upon elected officials I will certainly do this again. I think every citizen should write to politicians when they strongly believe in a matter. For my next letter I am doing to write the President about health care, as my family and I are people who suffer greatly from lack of proper medical coverage. I also know many other families who struggle with the same issue.