



A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PRESIDENT

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.

Dear Hostos Family,

It is with profound sadness that I share news on the passing of one of our students, Lawrence "Dahu" Harris. Mr. Harris arrived on the Hostos campus in the Fall 2016 semester and registered as a Criminal Justice major. A member of the Academic Achievers program, Nurse María Vasquez who formerly served as the coordinator fondly remembers "Dahu" as one of her best students and as a man with a big heart, who helped the youth in the community to have a better future through education and job skills. On November 16, 2017, Mr. Harris received an "Award of Opportunity" from NYCETC Workforce Development, for his great accomplishments in working with the youth from the community.



Although presently grieving, Mr. Harris's family shared that they were given "a reason to smile" when they heard about how special he was to the Hostos family. His daughter, Shaniese said, "my father was a sweet person, he was so good, this is so hard" as she expressed that her father passed away one week after burying his mom (her grandmother). She went on to share a curious detail about the family; that she is a twin and so is her father, but sadly neither Shaniese or her twin were able to meet her uncle (her father's twin) as her father reconnected with his brother later in life and

the brother passed away before the twins could ever meet him. Shaniese disclosed that her father grew up in a foster home and that he has two sisters from his mother's side that will survive him.

While Mr. Harris was unable to complete his degree, we will honor his memory during the 2021 Commencement ceremony.

Peace,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.
Interim President

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

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