

Unificationist support Montclair, NJ State University's Martin Luther King Day

N. Jewell
January 16, 2017



After arriving to the student center at Montclair State University, we had a nice, hot breakfast while waiting for the guest speaker to arrive. This year, the guest speaker was Chairman Lawrence Hamm from the People's Organization for Progress. He is a civil rights activist, humanitarian, and lecturer. At age 17, he was the youngest school board member in the United States, serving on the Newark Board of Education, and attended college at Princeton University. He talked about how important it is for young people to carry out Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy and being able to make a change and transform the world we are living in. "Dr. King's work is not finished and we need young people to finish and make the change we need to see in this world. We need young leaders, we need a movement for social change in order to transform the world and nation. Volunteer your service by living for others and doing good for all people, and the good will come back to you."

It was an inspiring message for the volunteers to begin the day with, as we split into different service groups. I volunteered for the "Cards for Soldiers" group. We were given many cards and spent the hours writing to our veterans, thanking them for their service. It was really meaningful to be sitting at a table with other young people who all seemed to have someone they knew that was a veteran, or a family member that is currently serving. There were also ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) students at my table and it really gave perspective and a deeper meaning to the activity. In the end, a group of about 50 people filled up 5 medium sized boxes filled with letters, and it felt good to know that veterans would be reading the heartfelt cards we all made.