

At Memorial, volunteering is very cool

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WEST NEW YORK — In between classes, athletics and nightly homework, the students of Memorial High School still find time to volunteer to help the needy.

The high school's youth group, My Outreach Mission (MoMs), is a spin-off of the Franciscan Youth Mission of Fairview, which already had several members from Memorial. Both youth groups work to help the needy of their areas.

MoMs, which counts 287

Memorial students as members, performs volunteer work ranging from helping out in orphanages to participating in food and clothing drives.

MoMs was honored yesterday by the Bergen County United Way Housing for running a campaign in May that helped 22 homeless people find permanent homes in the county with beds and appliances.

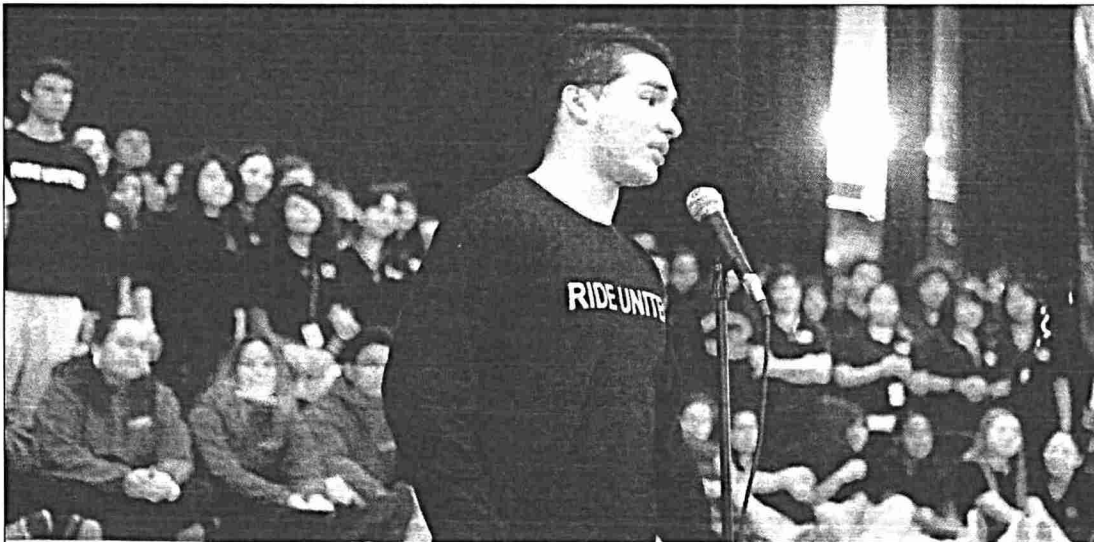
MoMs next plans to volunteer at the Bowery Mission Transitional Center in New York, the largest facility for the homeless in New York, on

Thanksgiving Day.

Starting at 6 a.m. next Thursday, the first set of 40 students will be serving breakfast to the homeless at the mission. Another group of students will be come in later and work until 8 p.m. serving dinner.

"You gain a lot from helping people," said Jose Pozo, president of MoMs.

"Just by giving a small gift or feeding them a small meal, you see a difference in these people."



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JOSE POZO, president of My Outreach Mission, speaks on behalf of the group after being honored by Bergen County United Way Housing.

