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## Photography exhibit explores hunger in America

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"Pamela," one of the photographs featured in Michael Nye's "About Hunger and Resilience"

*The following was submitted by Gathering Change, Inc.:*

Endicott College and Gathering Change, Inc. invite you to view the nationally acclaimed photography exhibit, About Hunger and Resilience, by professional photographer Michael Nye from Wednesday, October 10 – Sunday, November 4, 2012.

The exhibit will be held in Heftler Visiting Artist Gallery at the Walter J. Manninen Center for the Arts, Endicott College, 376 Hale Street, Beverly, MA. On Wednesday, October 10, we invite you to meet Michael Nye at the reception from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. and stay for his in-depth lecture and presentation about the exhibit and the creative process, from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Rose Performance Hall. Endicott College and Gathering Change, Inc. are pleased to present this poignant project on hunger. The intention is to raise community awareness and funds for food pantries. The exhibition, reception and lecture are all free and open to the public.

Hunger: we are all connected by the primal need to eat for survival. Mr. Nye spent more than four years travelling around the United States exploring this issue; listening to and photographing people struggling with hunger. The result is a moving collection of portraits and first-person, recorded narratives. “I have been profoundly inspired by each participant”, Nye exclaims, “and feel with even greater conviction that we all need to speak of how difficult life is for so many in our country.”

About Hunger and Resilience is a multi-media exhibition and a documentary of voices, stories and portraits that explores the lives of those who have experienced hunger. The exhibit includes 45 photographs each with an accompanying audio story about 4-6 minutes. The visitor experiences a personal and intimate narrative, momentarily sharing the individual’s endurance of hunger. Taken from an interview from NPR, Mr. Nye states: “The exhibit's galleries are dimly lit. Each portrait has its own spotlight and a pair of headphones. Visitors often sit on the floor, lost in the stories behind the faces that hang above. One of the premises behind this project is a profound belief that everyone knows something that no one else knows — a wisdom about hunger. I hope that this exhibit is not just about making noise but about making things better, to see hunger as it is — without any illusion. And I think it's easier, then, to take it on and look for solutions.”

When Dorothy Goodwin, President of Gathering Change, Inc., a 501c3 organization which raises money for neighborhood food pantries, discovered Nye’s work on hunger, she knew she wanted to bring the exhibit to Massachusetts. As Ms. Goodwin explains, “Gathering Change, Inc. wanted to bring this story home. Our hope is that you will walk away (after experiencing the exhibit) with a new understanding of what brings people to hunger and work with us to find solutions to this growing problem here in Massachusetts.”

Endicott College, very much connected and committed to the North Shore community, was inspired to host About Hunger and Resilience for several reasons. To quote Endicott’s Mission Statement: “Endicott has a vision for the total development of the individual within a community that fosters an appreciation of diversity, international awareness, community service, and moral and ethical values.”

According to Kathleen Moore, Coordinator of Visual Arts at Endicott, “Hosting this exhibition in our gallery and collaborating with Gather Change, Inc., confirms our mission and commitment not only to educating our students about hunger awareness, but offering the community at large an opportunity to see and hear stories from people just like us, in our communities and nationally that are struggling and how we can help, and create change. Many of our students are involved with community service projects and programs either on their own or as part of an academic or athletic group. The Community Service Department provides resources and raises awareness for Endicott and the community at large.”

With the support of Endicott College, Gathering Change, Inc., and the generosity Salem Five Charitable Foundation, The Savings Bank, Cranney Home Services and Stop and Shop Supermarkets it is now possible to bring this important piece of sociology to the public's attention. To allow guests the opportunity to give back to their community, all are invited to bring their spare change when they visit the exhibit.

If you have any questions regarding About Hunger and Resilience, or any of the programming related to this exhibition, please contact Kathleen Moore at 978-232-2655 or [kmoore@endicott.edu](mailto:kmoore@endicott.edu). Our website is: [www.endicott.edu/centerforthearts](http://www.endicott.edu/centerforthearts) for further information on future exhibits and lecture opportunities. If you would like to get in contact with Gathering Change, Inc., please visit their website at: <http://www.gatheringchangeinc.org/>

Located in Beverly, Massachusetts on 235 acres of oceanfront property, Endicott College offers Master and Bachelor degree programs in the professional and liberal arts. Founded in 1939, Endicott provides an education built upon a combination of theory and practice, which is tested through internships and work experience. Studying at the Beverly campus, regionally, and internationally are approximately 2,200 undergraduate and more than 2,400 adult and graduate students