Edwards, Michelle

From: Kristen Hendrix <khen199@my.wgu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:34 AM

To: Edwards, Michelle Subject: *Ext!* Care, not cages.

External Email - Think Before You Click

. Helpdesk

To whom it may concern:

Please, for the sake of our community, devote more money to care instead of cages. As a registered nurse I have cared for all walks of life. I feel that I have a unique perspective on mental health, homelessness, and drug addiction - because I see it first hand. I have cared for criminals. I have cared for those addicted to drugs or with mental health issues. Time and time again while listening to patient's talk about their lives the biggest adversary they faced in life was lack of resource. They could not get the help they needed and deserved. I am confident that by putting more funds into resources that can help address these major issues, we can decrease crime in our community. There are many scientific articles and studies that use data and statistics as evidence to back up this practice and explain how it saves money in the long run. The numbers are there, but instead of writing them all out to you, I implore you to search your heart. What would you want for your own son or daughter who was battling addiction? Or facing an untreated mental disease? Or had no support system and couldn't afford something so they stole it instead? People deserve a chance. Vote for care, not for cages.

Thank you Kristen M. Hendrix

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