

6-11-2020

CITY CLERK

Edwards,Michelle

From: Isaac Wonderlin <ilwonderlin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:58 AM
To: Edwards,Michelle
Subject: *Ext!* Care Not Cages

****External Email - Think Before You Click****

- Helpdesk

Dear City Council,

My name is Isaac Wonderlin. I live at 720 Walnut Street, Terre Haute, Indiana 47807.

I am emailing regarding the way in which we spend out LIT funds. It is time for us to rethink what Public Safety means to us here in Terre Haute. We must begin to fund programs that keep first time offenders out of jail, and help to end the School-to-Prison pipeline within our own community. We need Care Not Cages.

Our jail is currently overcrowded, and while I know the Jail renovations will help in the short term, we need to begin investing in the community so we don't face another overcrowding problem again in 10 years. It is necessary to invest funds in rehabilitation programs, mental health treatment facilities, and it is time to reevaluate what constitutes a stay in the county jail. Mass incarceration is a plague upon our society. We have to find ways to fight systematic problems at their roots, instead of throwing people in cages for what is nothing more than a years long time out. Mass incarceration does not help people rehabilitate, and failing to rehabilitate is failing our community.

Thank you,
Isaac Wonderlin