

Nilsa Orama  
Chair  
Community Board 11

Dear Ms. Orama,

In existence for 22 years, the HNBA's story is simple; we are neighbors working together towards our common goal of improving the quality of life in our Northeast Harlem community. We currently have over 300 members living in the area from 118th Street to 130th Street between 3rd Avenue to Lenox Avenue who are galvanized around improving the quality of life in our community by reducing the oversaturation of substance use programs and homeless shelters.

The Harlem Neighborhood Block Association (HNBA) recently heard of a proposal to convert failing East Harlem homeless shelters into supportive and affordable housing with on-site services. Our block association would like to add our voices to this request and ask CB11 to press the city to work towards this goal as we believe that New York City must work towards effective, sustainable, and permanent solutions to the homeless crisis.

CB11 has been the site of too many poorly run shelters that abandon their residents onto the streets of our community with little to do and supportive services that are not onsite. Converting (not building new facilities - we are already overburdened as a community) shelters to supportive housing would work towards stabilizing the vulnerable men and women in our East Harlem shelters.

HNBA requests that our voices be added to this budget request.

Best,

# HNBA

Harlem Neighborhood Block Association