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Dear Eric Adams

I am an 18-year-old living in New York City. I've come across mentally ill homeless people on my way to school several times, especially on the train. Due to this negative experience I have become scared to leave my house. Mayor Eric Adams, the mayor of New York City. I've seen your work and I've noticed how you have been trying to improve our public safety. I believe that with the power you have, you can help us feel safe. Many of us live in constant fear when going out in public and it shouldn't be that way. We as a community should feel safe. Everyone throughout the world went through this crisis which was COVID-19. I came across this newspaper article stating that Covid had a huge impact on everyone's life. A lot of things had to be shut down for our health safety in 2020 which caused the homeless rate to increase dramatically. In this newspaper article it states "Homeless single adults experience higher rates of addiction disorders, mental illness, and other severe health complications than homeless families. Furthermore, the pandemic seems to have worsened these underlying structural issues and what organizations, the government, and citizens can do to alleviate the problem," even though Covid it's still relevant till this day we cannot just sit here and do nothing we need to find ways to make us feel safe. You need to hear the people out because listening to diverse opinions and solutions from the community can help find multiple solutions and at the end of the day it's our safety we're talking about.

The majority of us take the train, a transportation that we have to take in order to be able to proceed with our everyday life and that being the case we come across mentally ill homeless people. They be screaming disturbing phrases like "murder her" and just yelling uncontrollably and the worst part is that we don't know if they're willing to physically harm us, we just have to hope they don't but there has been occasions where they have left a scar on us like being pushed on to the train tracks by them or them laying under the seats of the train and grabbing our leg the list goes on and on but the point is that this type of experiences have become more and more common. When trying to find information about why? I came across this YouTube video in which Michael Reno the president and CEO of the midnight mission said "Our laws are built for people who have cognitive capacity, they're really designed to protect you and me from someone

, you know putting us away , they're not designed for people who really need help and assistance in making cognitive decisions about what's best for them.” After hearing this I realize that the reason why we don't feel safe is because we don't have the right law system to make us feel protected and just shoving these individuals away isn't a solution , this is temporary and unaffected set of actions.

These individuals are committing crimes but putting them in jail and making them go to trial isn't going to better them and our safety. When watching a YouTube video of a sister trying to find help for her mentally ill homeless sister no one was there to help her. The news report states “ Alisha's sister drives the Streets looking for her sister and when she finds her, she calls someone to go get her and take her for treatment but no one has taken her sister in.” This comes to show that we need facilities that are actually willing to help those in need with their mental illness , we need long term solutions and yes I've seen how mentally ill homeless people in NYC will be forced off streets to hospitals and for treatment under your plan but this is just the first step. Having a good organization of people that are willing to help like therapists and people working in the facilities and hospitals play a big role in making sure that progress is being made.

I can be contacted at [angieramirez1019@gmail.com](mailto:angieramirez1019@gmail.com) , I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Sincerely  
Angie Ramirez