

To whom it may concern,

I just received several messages confirming the opening of a Women's Shelter for Mentally Ill and Addiction issues. Although I don't know what the exact answer is to help mitigate this growing problem within our city, I do know that installing a centre in a residential area with parks, several schools (including my daughter's high school), businesses (including my own), families etc. is NOT the answer. I am not sure if you are a parent or not, but having a toddler and teen myself, I am always concerned about their safety. Statistically, every time a hub like this goes up, crime, stabbings, and theft go up as well. Not to mention the garbage, needles, people getting high on steps of other businesses, or passing out in front of shops and restaurants.

This city has many non-residential areas where these types of facilities can be built.

Not in my neighborhood. Not on my clock and not with children at play.

Rita Catolino