

To the esteemed members of the appropriations committee,

As you consider the proposed budget for the Dept of Corrections I stand with the Katal Center, and many community groups and CT residents in demanding that savings realized from the closure of Northern Correctional and other facilities be reinvested in communities impacted greatly by mass incarceration, and specifically in programs and infrastructure proven to prevent crime by stabilizing the communities through fostering of decent quality of life, affordable decent housing, educational and employment opportunities, and the infrastructure to access resources, such as improved transportation, child care and support services.

It is long past time to move forward in lifting up struggling communities instead of policing them.

Lynn Ofori

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