

EDOLPHUS "ED" TOWNS
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
10TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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August 10, 2011

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg,

Please accept my profound commendation for your recently announced initiative to provide assistance to young men of color in New York City. As the Representative of the 10th New York Congressional District, this has been an issue of critical concern to me for many years. As you may remember, I wrote to you in December of last year praising your efforts to assume responsibility for New York City youth involved in the juvenile justice system. There is no more important endeavor than investing in our young people. That you are willing to invest \$30 million dollars to help put disconnected young males on paths to more positive futures speaks volumes of your commitment to the future of our City.

On September 30, 2010, I met with Mr. David Muhammad, then Deputy Commissioner for Probation for New York City, to discuss a similar plan to establish satellite offices in housing developments in Brooklyn's East New York community which lies in my district. I am very supportive of your plan to actively reach out to these young men, many who have been and are involved in the criminal justice system. I would be willing to have interns in my District offices and will encourage my colleagues in the New York City delegation to do so as well.

As an ordained minister and professional social work, the future of our children is a top priority for me. To that end, in conjunction with the National Association of Social Workers and the Congressional Social Work Caucus, I am convening a conversation on "The Future of New York City's Children and Youth" on Friday, September 16, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at NYU/Polytechnic University, 6 MetroTech Place in downtown Brooklyn. We will be bringing together leaders in the field of education and child welfare to discuss ideas and policies that will brighten the future of children and youth in our City.

Please do not hesitate to call on me if I can be helpful in this effort. I understand the challenges you face in tackling this enormous undertaking. You must succeed. So, you have my full support.]

Sincerely,



Edolphus "Ed" Towns