

(No subject)

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To:mary mcdonald <marymcdonald1989@live.com>

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To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my great disagreement with allowing My Brothers Keeper to establish a homeless shelter in Goodrich. Let's be clear it is a glorified homeless shelter. The first application submitted stated the establishment would be for people with "severe mental challenges or extreme trauma". That was denied and the new application is trying to push the idea of helping out just veterans. First off we don't have the resources to help either of the parties My Brother's keeper is trying to claim they want to help. We are a small town and most of us work out of the town, there is not an opportunity to find a career in Goodrich. There is no public bus route that runs through for these people to take to work. We don't have the abundance of medical help or law enforcement that can be called and will arrive in a short period of time to help these people with "severe mental challenges or extreme trauma". I would like to point out the fact that we live in an area with a lot loud "booms" and guns shoots. Some if not many veterans suffer from PTSD and these loud noises may be triggering. As a healthcare worker who worked in the heart of Detroit for many of years and came across many of homeless people, I feel like this is not the best idea for Goodrich. Unfortunately, crime, violence and drugs go hand in hand with establishments like this. I moved my children out of the city to protect them from things like this. My property is less than 1.6 miles away from where this new special housing is wanting to be established. I don't feel comfortable with a large amount of wooded areas backing up to this establishment where people can wander into other people's property. A good junk of my land is thick wooded areas and the thought of someone hiding in my woods while my children play is gut wrenching. I should not have to not feel safe for people who aren't Goodrich citizens. Why should my safety or families of Goodrich safety be compromised to house people who are just passing through. As a concerned mother of three and knowing the world we live in today I do not feel safe with people just passing through our small town. Not to mention our Goodrich schools are too close to this establishment and we don't have the resources in those schools to keep our children safe from people with mental health issues. Now I understand some of my points may be extreme but we have to acknowledge the possibility of things like this taking place.

When you look at My brother's keeper organization statement, it states that help homeless men. Nothing is mentioned about veterans in their mission statement. I think they are pushing the idea of veterans to pull on our heart strings. There is a MBK less then 14 miles away in flint and multiple other homeless shelters less then 20 miles away, all of which are in major cities with resources such as ambulances and near by hospitals.

There is so many what ifs that are a factor that take play. What if MBK loses its funding or grants and in desperation starts housing other people besides veterans or worse sells the property to another homeless shelter, because it was rezoned to special housing. Once this area is rezoned for special housing, the owners can put whoever they want there. Let's take a look at Chicago and New York and the issues they are facing with illegal immigrants. It is a possibility that down the road this newly rezoned special housing establishment can start to house individuals like this. Look at the economic strain these people have placed on those major cities, imagine what could happen to Goodrich. I would also like to touch on a story that was just made national news about a young nursing college student that was murder while jogging by an illegal immigrant. Now once again, these are all extreme possibilities but we can't not consider the "what ifs."

There are people I'm our community who know of individuals in MBK shelters and know for a fact they are criminals and not veterans. I believe the township really needs to look into this before anything is approved. A

place like this is not vital to the growth of Goodrich. I would also like to add the fact that I come from a military family and know there are other ways we can help our veterans out as a community.

Thank you,
Mary Edwards of Goodrich