



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

October 18, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone attending the Be Strong LIVE Tour event at Carnegie Hall.

Driven by youth leaders and advocates, Be Strong is guided by its mission to prevent school-based bullying and violence in New York and across the country. Through its programs and digital platforms that foster dialogue about this pervasive problem and provide training to students, parents, and educators to help prevent it, while also connecting youth to support services in their communities, this wonderful organization is empowering many young people to be more resilient and confident.

No young New Yorker should have to face bullying at school, and that is why the de Blasio administration is investing eight million dollars in prevention and assistance programs through our Department of Education and our ThriveNYC mental health initiative. These efforts include training teachers, students, their families, and community members to recognize and address social aggression and discrimination in schools and neighborhoods throughout the five boroughs, and to provide our youth with mental health services and the tools they need to build healthy relationships, develop self-esteem, manage conflict, and cope with life's challenges.

While we continue to implement and expand this comprehensive plan, we are grateful for the complementary efforts of Be Strong. I am pleased to join with all those gathered tonight in applauding its dedicated staff, volunteers and supporters for their commitment to advance positive change in our city and beyond and lift up the next generation. Together, we are ensuring safe and inclusive learning environments for our youth and building a brighter future for all.

I join with Bill in offering you all our best wishes for an inspiring and memorable event and great success achieving your goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chirlane McCray".

Chirlane McCray