



OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ANTONIO REYNOSO

Brooklyn Borough President

August 29, 2022

John Billeci, Vice President of Special Events and Individual Giving
107 East 70th Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Mr. Billeci:

As Brooklyn Borough President, I congratulate VNS Health on its **2022 Benefit: “The Future of Care. The Comfort of Home.”** with profound pride and admiration. VNS Health, formerly known as the Visiting Nurse Services of New York, has been in service of New York City for over 128 years when founded by Lillian Wald to provide health services, education, and a safety net to the most vulnerable New Yorkers.

VNS Health stood on the front lines of every health crisis New York City has faced, most recently the 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic. VNS Health adapted quickly to the increasing community need for health care workers while staying vigilant about protecting their current patients' health. During the Covid-19 Pandemic, VNS Health frontline workers and home health aides provided crucial work in keeping New Yorkers healthy at home during challenging times. Moreover, VNS Health established a care management organization in partnership with insurers and hospital networks to provide affordable care to high-risk patients.

VNS Health evolved from just a few nurses in 1893 to a diverse team of nearly 10,000 individuals in 2022. VNS Health rapidly expanded its services from just home care and community programs to hospice care, personal care, and behavioral health and care management. In the 1990s, VNS Health founded the Center for Home Care Policy and Research to lead the way as an innovator in home-and-community-based health care. Through this expansion, VNS Health became one of the largest freestanding not-for-profit home-and-community-based health care organizations in the United States.

I commend VNS Health for its hard work in providing exemplary health services, education, and safety to our most vulnerable. For over a century and a quarter, VNS Health has stepped up to serve New Yorkers with expert and compassionate care while ensuring the safety and well-being of its staff and team members. On behalf of the Borough of Brooklyn, I congratulate your success and look forward to continuing our work together on creating a healthier Brooklyn and a healthier New York City for all.

Sincerely,

Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso