

**SENATOR
GUSTAVO RIVERA**
33RD DISTRICT

**NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE**

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



CHAIRMAN, MAJORITY MEMBER
HEALTH
COMMITTEES:
ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
CRIME VICTIMS, CRIME AND CORRECTION
FINANCE
HIGHER EDUCATION
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MENTAL HEALTH

November 9, 2023

Dear Friends,

I want to offer my heartfelt congratulations to VNS Health and its honorees as you celebrate your Annual Benefit.

It is my pleasure to congratulate this year's recipient of the Lillian D. Wald Award to Mike Valentine, Chief Executive Officer of Netsmart, and to Martha Wolfgang, retired Adjunct Faculty Member in Health Policy and Management at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health and Peter Hutchings, Member of the Board of VNS Health.

For more than a century, VNS Health has embodied the theme of this year's Benefit. You have empowered your neighbors in need by providing the best possible physical, mental, and long-term care to some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers. As Chair of the Senate Health Committee, I not only celebrate the efforts and talents of your dedicated and varied healthcare professionals but I am committed to continue championing policies that will ensure your workforce is protected and thriving.

May VNS Health and its members continue to be a source of inspiration to all the communities they diligently serve. I look forward to working together in our efforts to advocate for the health and well-being of all New Yorkers.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GRIVERA".

Gustavo Rivera
New York State Senate
33rd District