

2025 BENEFIT

THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 13, 2025



HERE
WHEN
YOU
NEED
US



**In celebration of
our amazing
NURSES**

**Who are the
heart and soul
of our service**

Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz



VNS HEALTH 2025 BENEFIT

**HERE WHEN
YOU NEED US**

HONORING

Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (ret.)
OF COUNSEL, GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP

AND

Ramon Tallaj, MD
FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, SOMOS COMMUNITY CARE

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

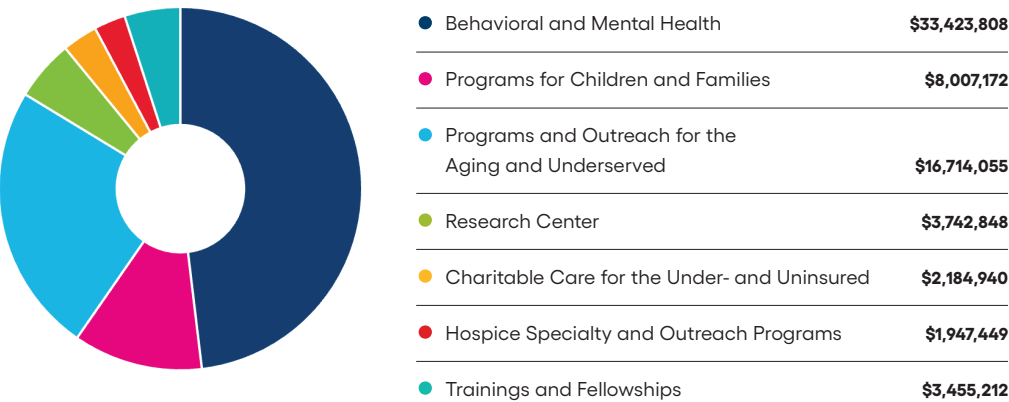
Kori Chambers
PIX11 ANCHOR

Here When You Need Us

For more than 130 years, VNS Health has been at the forefront of providing home- and community-based health care that is accessible to everyone. From our earliest days, we’ve known that life is lived at home and in the community, surrounded by family and friends. Because VNS Health teams deliver a wide range of care and support in homes and neighborhoods, we see all the things that make up the life of a person, a family, a community.

Thanks to the support of our generous donors, we can give hope to our neighbors who might otherwise not be able to find, access, or afford the health care they need and deserve.

In 2024, VNS Health provided over \$69 million in charitable care and community impact programs, serving over 117,000 neighbors in need.



Dear Friends,

Welcome to our VNS Health 2025 Benefit Gala! We’re excited to celebrate our two esteemed honorees, **Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (ret.)**, Of Counsel, Greenberg Traurig, LLP, and **Ramon Tallaj, MD**, Founder and Chairman of the Board, SOMOS Community Care!

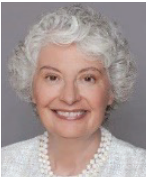
The theme of this year’s gala is **Here When You Need Us**. For 132 years, VNS Health has been here for vulnerable New Yorkers. Today, we continue to be here for those who need us, from the very young to the very old, here in New York City and across New York State.

We’re delighted to be presenting the **2025 Lillian D. Wald Award** to **Judge Ciparick** and **Dr. Tallaj**. The award is named after the public health pioneer and founder of VNS Health and is presented each year in recognition of those who have made significant contributions to the health and welfare of others.

A former Senior Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals (New York State’s highest court) who has written ground-breaking decisions on many issues, Judge Ciparick has also served the public on dozens of boards, including 10 years as a VNS Health Board member. Throughout her career as a lawyer and her 34 years on the New York bench, she has striven to secure the elimination of racial and ethnic disparity in the court system, while paving the way for Latinos in New York and beyond.

Over the course of his 44-year medical career in the Dominican Republic and New York, Dr. Tallaj has championed initiatives focused on reducing health care disparities in low-income immigrant and minority communities. As the founder and chair of SOMOS Community Care, which began operations in 2015, he oversees more than 2,500 culturally diverse physicians who care for more than one million highly underserved patients in the New York City area.

Thank you, Judge Ciparick and Dr. Tallaj, for all that you’ve done to help the most vulnerable! Tonight, we celebrate you and the continuation of our mission.



Deborah Sale
BOARD CHAIR
VNS HEALTH



Dan Savitt
PRESIDENT AND CEO
VNS HEALTH



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

November 13, 2025

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the VNS Health 2025 Benefit – *Here When You Need Us*.

Founded in 1893 by Lillian D. Wald, VNS Health was a pioneer in the fields of social reform, nursing and public health, providing health services, education and a safety net to the most vulnerable New Yorkers in lower Manhattan during a time when disease was rampant. Over a century later, VNS Health has been a trusted partner in delivering high-quality care to vulnerable and marginalized communities. Be proud of the compassionate services and support you consistently deliver to New Yorkers in need.

In 2024, VNS Health – with your generous supporters and community partners – provided \$69 million in charitable care and community benefit programs. I join with you all in celebrating such magnanimous support.

I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to this year's recipients of the *Lillian D. Wald Award*: Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (ret.), Of Counsel, Greenberg Traurig, LLP, and Ramon Tallaj, MD, Founder and Chairman of the Board, SOMOS Community Care. The *Lillian D. Wald Award* is presented each year in recognition of those who have made significant contributions to the health and welfare of others. I join with their family and friends in saluting them for a job well done.

Again, congratulations to tonight's honorees and best wishes to VNS Health for your continued success.

Sincerely,


CARL E. HEASTIE
Speaker



November 13, 2025

Dear Friends:

As the Speaker of the New York City Council, I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the VNS Health 2025 Benefit, "*Here When You Need Us*."

Public health is a shared responsibility, requiring all of us to work together to ensure that New Yorkers have what they need to be healthy.

With its vast array of health services and commitment to three core values – Empathy, Integrity, and Agility – VNS Health has been a critical partner in this effort, providing millions of New Yorkers with the quality care they need to lead their healthiest lives in the comfort of their communities and homes.

As they celebrate their annual benefit this evening, I would like to thank VNS Health and its dedicated team for the vital work they are doing to improve the health and well-being of New Yorkers and for always being there for our city and communities.

Congratulations as well to this year's honorees.

I hope everyone has a wonderful time tonight!

Sincerely,


ADRIENNE E. ADAMS
Speaker

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THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITINGS, AND DISPOSITIONS

November 13, 2025

To the VNS Health Executive Leadership, Board of Directors, and Staff,

As Majority Leader of the New York City Council and Council Member representing the 18th District in the Bronx, I would like to offer my congratulations and well wishes as you celebrate this year's VNS Health Benefit. For more than 130 years, VNS has been tirelessly committed to its mission of improving the health and well-being of people through high-quality, cost-effective health care in the home and community. The medical professionals at VNS provide New Yorkers with the highest standard of care during their most vulnerable moments, living up to VNS' core values of empathy, integrity, and agility. The staff at VNS contributes a great deal to the well-being of our communities and for that, we owe them a debt of gratitude.

I want to offer particular congratulations to this year's honorees, Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick and Dr. Ramon Tallaj. Thank you for your service and work on behalf of all New Yorkers.

I am so inspired by the work and dedication of the VNS team. It is essential that we recognize organizations who are working to improve the quality of life for our neighbors and celebrate their achievements as a community. Thank you to VNS on your continued work to support your patients across District 18 and the five boroughs.

Sincerely,

Hon. Amanda Farías
NYC Council Majority Leader
Council Member, District 18



**THIRD COUNCIL DISTRICT OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**
224 WEST 30TH STREET, #1206
NEW YORK, NY 10001

TELEPHONE
(212) 564-7757

November 13, 2025

Dear VNS Health,

It is a pleasure to congratulate you on the occasion of the 2025 VNS Health Benefit, "*Here When You Need Us*." This theme speaks volumes about the essential role VNS Health plays in the lives of New Yorkers by offering care, compassion, and support exactly when and where it's needed most: in patients' and members' homes and communities.

This year's honorees, the Honorable Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick of Greenberg Traurig, LLP, and Dr. Ramon Tallaj, Founder and Chairman of SOMOS Community Care, are shining examples of leadership in service to others. Their lifelong dedication to justice, equity, and community health exemplify the very best of public service and medical leadership. I join you in celebrating their achievements.

As Chair of the New York City Council LGBTQIA+ Caucus, I want to especially commend VNS Health for your Gender Affirmation Program (GAP). The only program of its kind in the country, GAP provides culturally affirming, in-home clinical care and social support to transgender and nonbinary patients recovering from gender-affirming surgery. In a time when access to this kind of care is under attack across the country, this program stands as a model of dignity and equity.

Finally, I also want to recognize the vital services VNS Health provide here in District 3. Whether home care, behavioral health support, end-of-life services, or other programs, your team is a lifeline for so many of my constituents. Your presence in our neighborhoods is deeply valued, and your impact is felt every day.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to health, equity, and community. I look forward to celebrating with you and honoring the individuals who help make your mission possible and improve the health and wellbeing of New Yorkers.

Yours in service,

Erik Bottcher
New York City Council Member
District 3

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JUDICIARY
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MEMBER
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ON DIVERSITY IN THE JUDICIARY



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hoylman@nysenate.gov

WEBSITE:
hoylman.nysenate.gov

November 13, 2025

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to congratulate you on the occasion of the VNS Health 2025 Benefit.

Since its founding in 1893 by Lillian D. Wald, VNS Health has been a trusted partner in providing high-quality, compassionate, and community-based health care to New Yorkers in need. Today, VNS Health serves more than 73,000 patients, members, and clients every day, delivering care that helps individuals live, age, and heal at home, surrounded by family and community. I am thrilled to celebrate this remarkable legacy of innovation and service.

Tonight, we also honor the contributions of Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (Ret.), Of Counsel at Greenberg Traurig, LLP, and Dr. Ramon Tallaj, Founder and Chairman of the Board of SOMOS Community Care. Both exemplify the values of leadership, compassion, and commitment to the health and welfare of others, in the spirit of Lillian Wald's pioneering vision. I applaud their achievements and VNS Health's ongoing dedication to advancing health equity for all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

Brad Hoylman-Sigal

Brad Hoylman-Sigal
New York State Senate
47th District

SENATOR
GUSTAVO RIVERA
33RD DISTRICT



CHAIRMAN, MAJORITY MEMBER
HEALTH
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CRIME VICTIMS, CRIME AND CORRECTION
FINANCE
HIGHER EDUCATION
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MENTAL HEALTH

November 13, 2025

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 the Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (ret.), Counsel at Greenberg Traurig, LLP, and Ramon Tallaj, MD, Founder and Chairman of the Board at SOMOS Community Care.

For more than a century, VNS Health has provided health services, education, and a safety net to the most vulnerable New Yorkers, serving thousands of patients every year. As Chair of the Senate Health Committee, I celebrate the efforts of VNS Health's dedicated healthcare professionals and I remain committed to champion policies that will ensure your workforce is protected.

VNS Health's work, which focuses on bringing compassionate healthcare to those in need, is a source of inspiration to all the communities they diligently serve.

Thank you for your continued work in the community, and I look forward to continuing to work with VNS Health.

Sincerely,

Gustavo Rivera

Gustavo Rivera
New York State Senator
33rd Senate District, The Bronx

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grivera@nysenate.gov



GRACE LEE
Assemblymember 65th District



THE ASSEMBLY STATE
OF NEW YORK ALBANY

CHAIR
Asian Pacific American Task Force

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Children and Families
Consumer Affairs and Protection
Environmental Conservation Housing

MEMBER:
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force
Legislative Women's Caucus
Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and
Asian Legislative Caucus
Food, Farm and Nutrition Policy Task
Force

November 13, 2025

Dear Friends,

It is my distinct privilege to congratulate VNS Health on their 2025 Benefit, "Here When You Need Us."

For over 130 years, VNS Health has provided essential health services, education and support to our most vulnerable communities. As a leader in home and community care, VNS Health has aided millions of individuals by providing cost-effective, high quality, and compassionate care in the safety of their homes. VNS Health's 'Chinatown NNORC and Community Center' Community Impact Program helps older adults in Chinatown remain in their homes while receiving essential social and health care support, as well as recreational, exercise, and music programs that keep them connected to their community.

In recognizing the importance of caring for our older community, I am grateful to VNS Health for strengthening the health and wellbeing of our senior community in Chinatown and New York City. This year's theme, "Here When You Need Us," is a powerful reminder that, in these uncertain times, the work that VNS Health does to provide healthcare to those who need it most is more important than ever.

I also extend my congratulations to this year's Lillian D. Wald Award honorees, Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, and Ramon Tallaj, MD. Thank you for your dedication to improving the health and welfare of underserved New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

Grace Lee
Assemblymember
New York State District 65



Assemblywoman
Amy Paulin

Assembly District 88



November 13, 2025

Dear Friends of VNS Health,

It is my great honor to recognize the outstanding work of VNS Health on the occasion of their 2025 Here When You Need Us Benefit.

VNS Health has been committed to meeting the needs of New Yorkers for over 130 years. They are the largest nonprofit home- and community-based health care organization in the country, and today, more than 11,000 team members work together to make a difference in the lives of more than 73,000 patients and members on any given day. VNS Health helps New Yorkers live, age, and heal in their homes, connected to family and community.

The work of extraordinary members of the community, as well as local organizations, provide essential support that allows VNS Health to uphold its mission. Therefore, in celebration of their commitment to provide health services, education, and a safety net to the most vulnerable New Yorkers, it is my great pleasure to recognize this year's honorees, Honorable Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick and Ramon Tallaj, MD, who are receiving the Lillian D. Wald Award for their significant contributions to the health and welfare of others.

Thank you to VNS Health and all its supporters for your tireless efforts on behalf of our community. I wish you all continued success.

Sincerely,

Amy R. Paulin
Member of Assembly



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

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Housing
Mental Health
Corporations,
Authorities and Commissions
Economic Development, Job Creation,
Commerce, and Industry
MEMBER
Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic
and Asian Legislative Caucus
Legislative Women's Caucus
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force

November 13th, 2025

Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to extend my warmest congratulations to VNS Health as you gather for the 2025 Benefit, *Here When You Need Us*. For more than 130 years, VNS has been a steadfast lifeline for New Yorkers, delivering health care, education, and compassion directly into homes and communities.

From your founding by Lillian Wald in 1893 to the extraordinary scope of your services today, VNS Health has never wavered from its mission to serve the most vulnerable with dignity and respect. The impact of your work, serving more than 73,000 people each day, stands as a testament to your commitment and deep roots in our city.

This year's honorees, the Honorable Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick and Dr. Ramon Tallaj, embody the values that define VNS Health: dedication to public service, advocacy for equitable care, and a tireless commitment to improving lives. Their leadership and vision are an inspiration to us all.

Congratulations on another year of outstanding service and leadership.

With admiration and appreciation,

Sincerely,

Assemblymember Yudelka Tapia

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OFFICE OF THE BOROUGH PRESIDENT
10 RICHMOND TERRACE
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10301

VITO J. FOSSELLA
BOROUGH PRESIDENT
718.816.2000

November 13, 2025

VNS Health
220 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

Dear Friends,

It is my distinct pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to the many generous supporters of VNS Health as they celebrate the 2025 Benefit, "Here When You Need Us."

As Borough President, I take a great deal of pride in recognizing organizations that care for the health of Staten Islanders. Since its founding in 1893 by Lillian D. Wald, VNS Health has provided a safety net for New York's most vulnerable population, following the core values of empathy, integrity, and agility.

The skilled and compassionate care provided by the staff of VNS Health has allowed countless Staten Islanders to remain safe and healthy in their homes and gives them the opportunity to stay connected to their families, friends, and neighbors.

I also wish to congratulate the Honorable Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick and Dr. Ramon Tallaj as the recipients of the distinguished Lillian D. Wald Award for their significant contributions to the health and welfare of the individuals served by VNS Health.

Very truly yours,

Vito J. Fossella
Staten Island Borough President



KATHY HOCHUL
Governor
ANN MARIE T. SULLIVAN, M.D.
Commissioner

November 2025

VNS Health
220 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to recognize the continued accomplishments of VNS Health. For more than 130 years, VNS Health has been an innovator in home- and community-based health care. Currently helping more than 73,000 patients, plan members, and clients daily to live, heal, and recover in their own homes, connected to and surrounded by family, friends, and their community.

Over the year, the services offered by VNS Health, including home and personal care, hospice and palliative care, and behavioral health care - provided with empathy, integrity, and cultural competence - has impacted over 117,000 individuals across over 35 counties in New York State.

In addition to providing support for individuals who wish to stay in their homes and receive care, VNS Health also offers services and outreach through Naturally Occurring Retirement Community Nursing Services (NORCs), Veterans Outreach, Nurse-Family Partnership, Community Centers, and LGBTQ+ Outreach & GAP Programs.

The commitment and dedicated efforts of VNS Health has made this organization one of our most important and valued partners which OMH depends on to fulfill our own mission of promoting the mental health of all New Yorkers with a particular focus on providing hope and recovery.

Congratulations to VNS Health on their years of invaluable service to the community. And wishing them great success on the VNS Health 2025 Benefit, "Here When You Need Us."

Sincerely,

Ann Marie T. Sullivan, MD
Commissioner

44 Holland Avenue, Albany NY 12229 | omh.ny.gov

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Kori Chambers
PIX11 ANCHOR

Like many New Yorkers, Kori Chambers is a proud first-generation American. His parents left Jamaica in the 1970s looking for opportunity for their growing family. Joining PIX11 in 2013 was an exciting homecoming for the Bronx native. Kori is the co-anchor of the PIX11 News at 5, 6, 6:30 and 10 p.m.

In recent years, Kori has won several Emmy awards for his work anchoring the PIX11 News at 5, 6, and 10. From covering breaking news, to filing special reports, to running the New York City Marathon for charity, Kori has been busy. To top it off, he's also the father of a bright and active young daughter.

Kori's first big break was right here in New York, sitting next to Regis Philbin as a fill-in co-host on "Live! With Regis and Kelly." His career also includes work as a reporter and anchor in Chicago, Detroit, Las Vegas and Springfield, MA.



@KoriOnAir

LILLIAN D. WALD AWARD PAST RECIPIENTS

April Anthony (2018)	Roger Morley (1979)
Ann and Mark Baiada (2024)	Juliet Patterson (2012)
Peter G. Bergmann, Esq. (2007)	Charles Peebler, Jr. (1992)
Adam S. Boehler (2021)	Jeffrey M. Peek (2005)
Richard S. Braddock (2000)	Carl H. Pforzheimer III (2004)
Frank J. Branchini (2013)	Emily and John Rafferty (2021)
Douglas D. Broadwater (2014)	Carol Raphael (Special Recognition 2009)
Bert E. Brodsky (2017)	Irwin Redlener, MD (2003)
Samuel C. Butler (2012)	Beatrice Renfield (2002)
Kathy Hirata Chin (2017)	Corinne H. Rieder, EdD (2016)
Peter R. Dolan (2001)	Leon Root, MD (2008)
Eugenie F. Doyle, MD (2022)	John W. Rowe, MD (2009)
Steven M. Durels (2019)	John M. Schiff (1978)
Claire M. Fagin, PhD, RN, FAAN (2013)	Andrew N. Schiff, MD (2015)
Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen (2016)	H. Marshall Schwarz (2000)
Mary Pat Gallagher, MD (2008)	Steven P. Shelov, MD, MS (2008)
Stephen V.R. Goodhue (2004)	David B. Snow, Jr. (2011)
Albert H. Gordon (1979)	Tara I. Stacom (2014)
John R. Greed (2020)	John R. Stafford (1992)
Barbara and Donald Jonas (2007)	Mike Valentine (2023)
Attallah Kappas, MD (2010)	The VNSNY Volunteers (2015)
Robert M. Kaufman, Esq. (2011)	Thomas Von Essen (2001)
Dr. Gerald Laubach (1983)	Mark Wagar (2010)
Arthur Levitt, Jr. (1986)	Rawleigh Warner, Jr. (1980)
Robert V. Lindsay (1982)	Stephen A. Warnke (2022)
Ruth Watson Lubic, RN, CNM, EdD (2003)	Thomas R. Wilcox (1978)
John F. McGillicuddy (1981)	Martha Wolfgang and Peter Hutchings (2023)
Samuel L. (Tony) Milbank (2018)	John E. Zuccotti (2006)
Phyllis J. Mills, BSN, RN (2002)	

LILLIAN D. WALD AWARD



In the 1890s, in the midst of what would become known as the Gilded Age, two women in matching dark blue uniforms, each carrying a small black bag of first aid supplies, were a familiar sight on the teeming streets of Manhattan's Lower East Side. Lillian Wald and Mary Brewster had both recently graduated from the New York School of Nursing and were living in a neighborhood populated mainly by immigrants—families who found themselves living in cramped walk-up tenements, struggling to maintain their health as they tried to dig their way out of poverty.

One day in 1893, the young daughter of an immigrant student in Lillian Wald's home nursing class asked Wald to attend to her mother, who lay suffering with an untreated hemorrhage back in her small tenement room. The experience shook Lillian to her core, and at that moment she decided she would devote her life to caring for the poor and vulnerable.

The two nurses began providing nursing services to the community, dispensing healing and advice while wearing badges reading "Visiting Nurse Under the Auspices of the Board of Health." So was born the organization that would one day become the VNS Health.

Recruiting other nurses to assist in their endeavors, Lillian Wald and Mary Brewster headed out on their daily neighborhood rounds, which included educating residents about disease transmission and personal hygiene and providing medical care for illnesses, with all fees based on the patient's ability to pay. Thus, the term "public health nurse" was established by Wald. Additionally, Wald was instrumental in creating the first public school nurse position, and in 1900 she convinced the New York Board of Education to let a schoolteacher hold the first-ever class for children with learning disabilities or physical handicaps. She also initiated the first school lunch program in 1905, and in 1912, after years of lobbying, persuaded the U.S. government to establish the Federal Children's Bureau, charged with investigating and reporting on all matters pertaining to the welfare of children among all classes of people. Wald also believed that every person was entitled to equal and fair health care regardless of their socio-economic status, race, gender, or age, and went on to cofound Lincoln House to extend health care to black New Yorkers and joined Florence Kelley and Henry Moskowitz in founding the National Association for Colored People (NAACP) in 1909. Wald was elected the first president of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing in 1912 and remained a leader and innovator in public health throughout the rest of her life.

Today, VNS Health continues to embody this idealistic woman's wish to nurse the sick and destitute, as we work to fulfill Lillian's vision through a wide range of programs and activities. We are proud to be carrying out her legacy, and to be part of the broader public health and social support network that she helped to establish.

The Lillian D. Wald Award is presented annually to those who have made significant contributions to the health and welfare of others.



Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (ret.)

OF COUNSEL, GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP

Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (ret.), a native New Yorker, received her undergraduate degree from Hunter College and, in 1967, was awarded a Juris Doctor degree from St. John's University School of Law. A staff attorney with the Legal Aid Society from 1967 to 1969, she left that position to join the Court System and in 1972 was designated Chief Law Assistant of the Criminal Court of the City of New York and served as Counsel to the New York City Administrative Judge David Ross.

In 1978, Mayor Edward I. Koch appointed Judge Ciparick to the Criminal Court of the City of New York. In 1982, she was elected a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court and in January 1994, Governor Mario M. Cuomo, appointed her to the Court of Appeals. She was re-appointed by Governor Eliot Spitzer in November 2007. Upon her retirement from the Court in December 2012, she became "Of Counsel" to the law firm of Greenberg Traurig, LLP.

Judge Ciparick currently chairs the New York State Board of Law Examiners, is also a member of the New York State Indigent Legal Services Board and co-chairs the New York State Justice Task Force that examines the causes of wrongful convictions. During a previous New York City Administration she chaired the Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Judiciary. She is also a former Board member of VNS Health and the Office of the Appellate Defender.



Ramon Tallaj, MD

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD,
SOMOS COMMUNITY CARE

Dr. Ramón Tallaj, M.D., is a visionary physician, entrepreneur, and the Founder and Chairman of SOMOS Community Care—a nonprofit transforming value-based care for New York City's most underserved communities. With more than 2,500 providers operating out of over 900 medical offices, SOMOS delivers care to more than 30,000 patients daily and serves over 1 million Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries.

Dr. Tallaj pioneered New York State's first physician-led pay-for-performance model, positioning SOMOS as the only physician-led organization among the state's 25 Performing Provider Systems (PPSs). Under his leadership, SOMOS has become a national model for preventive, community-based care, reducing hospital readmissions by 22%, emergency room visits by 35%, and saving New York taxpayers more than \$336 million annually.

As Chair of the Balance Accountable Care Organization (ACO), he led initiatives that saved \$38 million in Medicare costs, placing the ACO among New York's highest performing. He also launched SOMOS Innovation, the state's only Level 3 Value-Based Payment Innovator, and created New York's first physician-led Social Care Network, integrating housing, transportation, nutrition, and behavioral health into a unified, tech-enabled model of care.

Dr. Tallaj is nationally recognized as a leading voice in public and community health. He has been featured on CNN, NBC News, and other major outlets for his work, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, when he mobilized frontline physicians to provide equitable testing, vaccination, and treatment in vulnerable communities. His leadership during the pandemic was captured in the Emmy-winning documentary "Doctor Tallaj: The Hispanic Physician Who Confronted COVID-19 in New York."

His impact has been further recognized with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the USCIS Outstanding American by Choice award, and inclusion in Modern Healthcare's Top 20 Innovators. Today, Dr. Tallaj continues to advance a data-driven, physician-led, and technology-powered model of care that bridges health and social systems to close persistent gaps in cost, access, and equity.

Menu

APPETIZER

Winter Burrata

Ancient Grains, Butternut Squash, Roasted Granny Smith
Apples, Brussels Sprouts, Lemon Vinaigrette
*Served with: Jacques Dumont, Sauvignon Blanc,
Loire Valley, France*

ENTRÉE

Pan Seared Filet Mignon

Cauliflower & Brie Gratin, Oven Roasted Tomato, Wilted
Kale, Onion Marmalade, Bordeaux Reduction
*Served with: The Atom Cabernet Sauvignon,
North Coast, California, USA*

DESSERT RECEPTION

Pumpkin Pie Ravioli
Lemon Meringue Pie Pop
Chocolate Supreme Parfait
Dirty Chai Tartlet
Dark Chocolate Raspberry Truffle
S'mores Tartlet
Caramel Cheesecake Bite
Seasonal Fruit Martinis

Program

WELCOME

Kori Chambers

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
PIX11 ANCHOR

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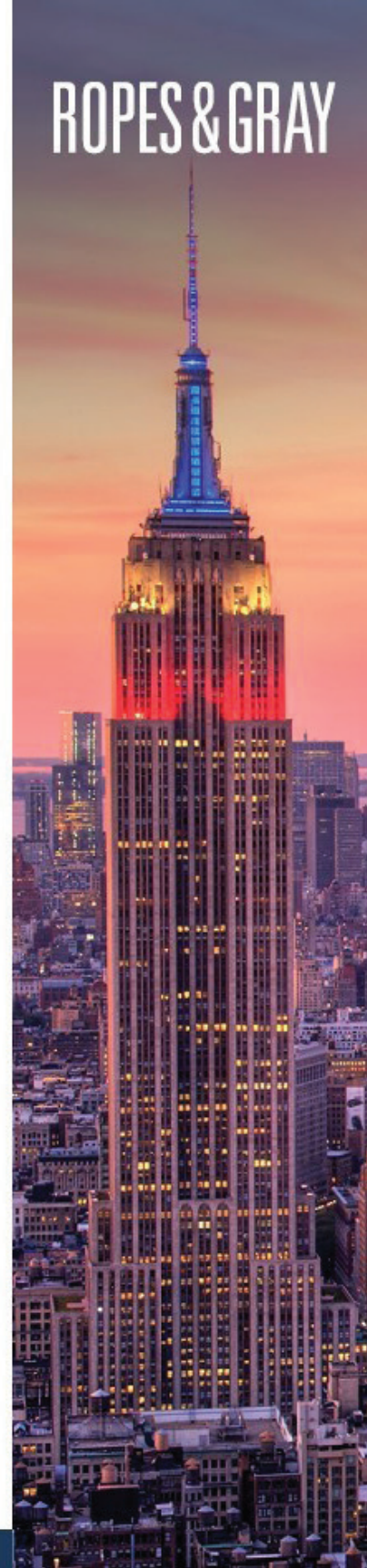
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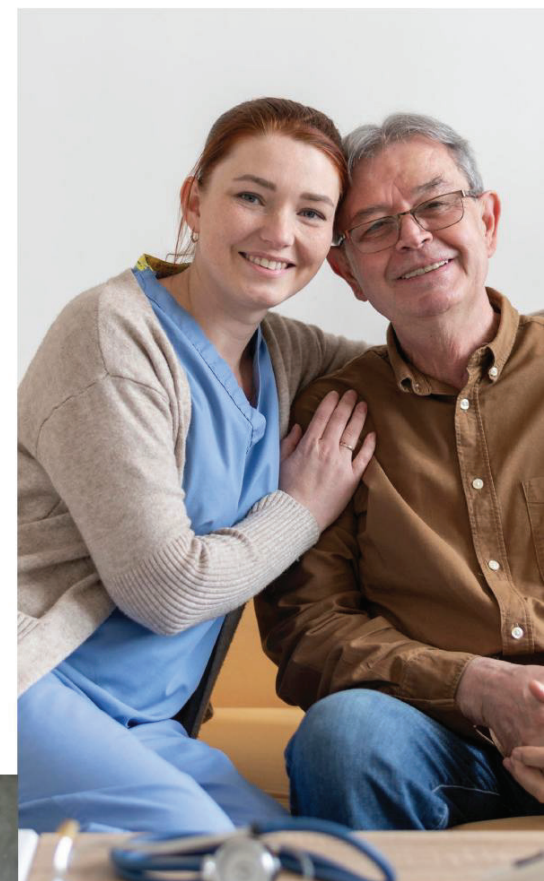
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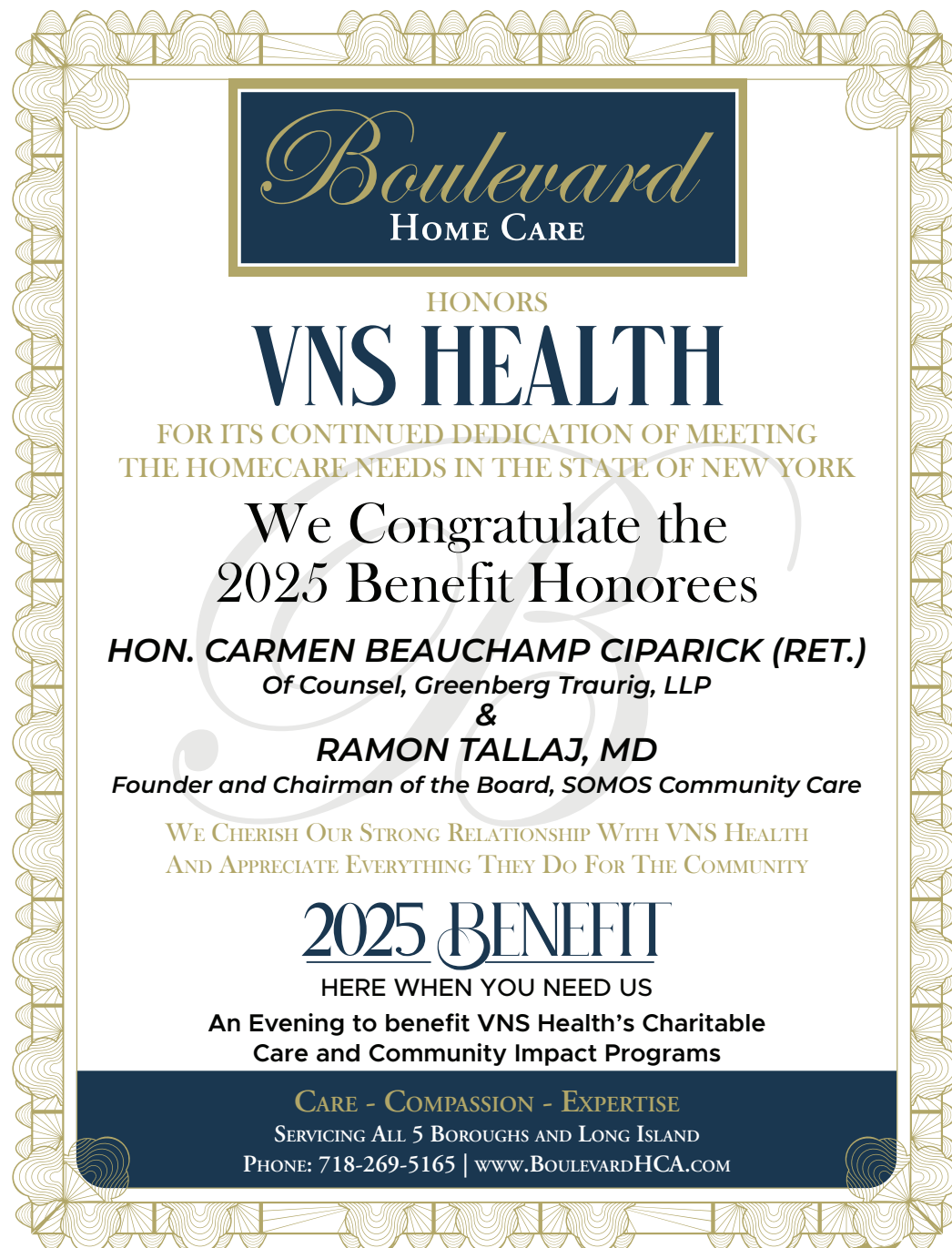
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We extend special congratulations to this year's honorees, our friend and colleague, **Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick (ret.)**, and Dr. Ramon Tallaj of SOMOS Community Care.



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