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Thursday, November 12, 2026

Dear Friends,

It is my honor, especially as Chair of the New York City Council Committee on Health, to extend my warmest congratulations to VNS Health on the occasion of its 2026 Benefit, Care That Connects Us.

For more than 130 years, VNS health has been a lifeline for New Yorkers, delivering compassionate, high-quality care where it is needed most – in people’s homes and communities. Founded by public health pioneer Lillian D. Wald, the organization has transformed the way care is delivered, helping New Yorkers live, age, and heal with dignity while ensuring that quality healthcare remains accessible to those who need it most. Today, VNS Health continues that extraordinary legacy by serving more than 100,000 patients, members, and clients each day and providing critical charitable care and community impact programs that strengthen communities across our city.

This year’s recipient of the Lillian D. Wald Award, Dr. Richard Park, is truly deserving of this distinguished recognition. Through his leadership and commitment to expanding access to high-quality healthcare, Dr. Park has made a lasting impact on the health and well-being of countless New Yorkers. His work embodies the vision of innovation, compassion, and service that Lillian D. Wald championed and that VNS Health continues to uphold.

Congratulations to VNS Health, to Dr. Richard Park, and to everyone whose dedication makes this remarkable organization a trusted partner in caring for New Yorkers. I wish you a memorable evening and continued success in your mission of improving lives through compassionate, community-based healthcare.

Sincerely,
Council Member Lynn Schulman

