Dear Friends:

Welcome to the Visiting Nurse Service of New York’s (VNSNY) 2021 Benefit Dinner – Inspiring Hope.

Founded in 1893 by Lillian Wald, VNSNY 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, most of whom were immigrants. Over a century later, VNSNY continues to help New Yorkers through numerous crises, including major outbreaks of polio, influenza, diphtheria, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the 9/11 attacks, Hurricane Sandy and – most recently – the COVID-19 public health emergency. You can all be proud of the commitment and support you continue to offer to our most vulnerable.

VNSNY currently employs more than 13,000 individuals who collectively speak more than 50 languages and has provided more than 933,000 clinical visits and 43.4 million home health aide hours to more than 75,400 patients ranging from newborn to centenarians over the past year. Additionally, you provided over $53 million in charitable care and community benefit programs, including $3 million in free and discounted home care services to under-and uninsured New Yorkers.

I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to this year’s recipients of the Lillian D. Wald Award: Adam Boehler, Founder & CEO, Rubicon Founders; Emily Rafferty, President Emerita, The Metropolitan Museum of Art and John Rafferty, Former Chair, Board of Directors, VNSNY. I join with their friends and family in saluting them for a job well done.

Again, congratulations to tonight’s honorees and best wishes to VNSNY for your continued success.

Sincerely,

CARL E. HEASTIE
Speaker