Dear Friends,

It is an absolute pleasure to extend my sincerest greetings as you gather to celebrate the VNSNY 2021 Benefit Dinner. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the exemplary and life-saving work of the Visiting Nurse Service of New York (VNSNY), its leadership, staff and this year’s honorees on this wonderful occasion.

Since its inception in 1893, the Visiting Nurse Service of New York has remained steadfast to its mission of promoting the highest standards of professional nursing practice while also serving as a safety net to some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers. As the largest not-for-profit home and community-based health care organization in the nation, VNSNY provides extensive support for ethnic and racial minorities, veterans, LGBTQ+ individuals, immigrants, people with disabilities, and many more. Dedicated to treating their patients with compassion, commitment, courage and creativity, VNSNY works tirelessly and on any given day, touches nearly 40,000 lives. I am deeply grateful for the indispensable services VNSNY provides to our communities, especially during this COVID-19 pandemic where they cared for over 6,500 COVID positive patients and families, made tens of thousands of clinical visits and greatly alleviated the strain on our hospital systems and nursing homes. I give a standing ovation to the entire VNSNY team and a special thank you to VNSNY Frontline Responders. I am proud that New Yorkers have such an honorable organization working diligently for them every day.

Additionally, I would like to spotlight this year’s recipients of the Lillian D. Wald Award: Adam Boehler, Founder & CEO of Rubicon Founders; Emily Rafferty, President Emerita of The Metropolitan Museum of Art & John Rafferty, Member and Former Chair of the VNSNY Board of Directors. I commend these individuals for supporting and upholding the mission of VNSNY and thank them for all their incredible efforts and meaningful contributions towards the health and welfare of others.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, thank you for your unwavering commitment and devotion to this important work. It is my hope that the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and this year’s honorees will continue these noble efforts for many more years to come. Best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator