

July 12, 2021



## Notable in Health Care 2021

This year's honorees were the heroes of the Covid-19 pandemic and are leading the way for a healthier future for all New Yorkers

If ever there was a time to honor New York City's healthcare professionals—who are indisputably the heroes of the Covid-19 pandemic—it is now.

Each and every day, for the past 17 months, doctors, nurses and hospital administrators bravely stood on the front lines of the Covid-19 crisis. During the darkest hours, they worked around the clock, increasing capacity to accommodate virus cases, mobilizing personal protective equipment, and providing telehealth services to patients. Scientists and drug companies labored tirelessly to develop and, ultimately, get approval for a vaccine, which New York City is trying to distribute equitably.

As we head into the second half of the year, with the ability to reflect on the pandemic and look confidently ahead to brighter days, we cannot overstate the role of the city's healthcare professionals in helping us emerge from the pandemic. This year's Notable in Healthcare edition recognizes their efforts in bringing us to this moment, as well as their numerous contributions apart from the crisis.

Included in this report are the leaders of some of the top hospitals and pharmaceutical companies in the world, right here in New York City. Among this group are the heads of insurance companies and nonprofit organizations, city officials, entrepreneurs, scientists and physicians. These honorees have distinguished themselves through their expertise and innovation. They have shown stamina and commitment.

To be sure, there is work still to be done to alleviate some of the healthcare disparities in the city. Many of the individuals in this report are trying to do just that. But with a health outlook that is better than anyone might have imagined a year ago, *Crain's* honors a group of people who have devoted their lives to building a healthier future.



At the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Andria Castellanos is responsible for overseeing all initiatives related to provider services. This includes home care, hospice and palliative care, community mental health services, as well as VNSNY's care management service line. Castellanos works to ensure the highest standards of quality, patient satisfaction and safety, operational efficiency and cost effectiveness. Before joining VNSNY in 2018, Castellanos spent more than three decades in the health care sector focused on clinical operations and strategic planning. She held senior positions at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, where she was group senior vice president and chief operating officer at the Columbia campus. Castellanos is on the board of the Billion Oyster Project, which is committed to restoring oyster reefs to New York Harbor through public education initiatives.

## **Andria Castellanos**

*Executive vice president  
and chief of provider  
services*

Visiting Nurse Service of  
New York