

He has more than thirty years of experience in education through his service as the former counselor at Lanier High School, as a former Assistant Principal at Hardy Junior High School and as a former Principal at Rowan Junior High and Brinkley Junior High School.

His contributions to the local community include: the Town Creek Project, Midtown Federal Housing Rehabilitation Program, Midtown Community Service Centers, and a Community Economic Development Grant. He has also served as: President of the Rolling Hills Neighborhood Association, a Habitat for Humanity board member and a 2004 Mississippi Delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

He has served on various committees in the City Council and among the community such as the Mayor's Advisory Committee, Superintendent's Advisory Committee, Keep Jackson Beautiful, and Jackson School Board President. He was formerly the Chairman of the Council's Budget Committee.

Councilman Tillman has been awarded: a pedestrian crosswalk on North Mill Street in his honor, the Boy Scouts of America Seminole District's Principal-of-the-Year Award, Governor's Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Voluntary Community Service and National Council of Negro Women's Appreciation Award for Outstanding and Dedicated Service.

He was married to the late Issie Patterson and has two children, Vanessa and Randy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Councilman Charles Tillman for his dedication in serving.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 14, 2015*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I'm proud to announce the beginning of our effort to reauthorize and extend the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, which is providing health care and financial assistance to over 70,000 first-responders and survivors all across the country. These are the 9/11 heroes—the firefighters, the police officers, the EMTs, the volunteers—who came to Ground Zero, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, to sift through the rubble and help their fellow men and women. The clock is ticking for the heroes and survivors of 9/11. In just over 500 days, the programs that help them cope with 9/11 related illnesses will expire.

After 9/11 we made a promise not only to pursue justice against those who attacked us and to rebuild but also to take care of those who were injured in those attacks and the heroes who risked life and limb in the recovery efforts.

Our commitment to "never forget" knew no bounds and no party lines when joined in unison on the steps of the Capitol back in 2001. This Congress we must make sure we keep that promise by permanently extending this vital legislation.

The health of those who were there in the aftermath of 9/11 was forever changed. More

than 70,000 people in all 50 states and in 429 of the 435 congressional districts have benefited from the World Trade Center and National Health Programs. The September 11th Victim Compensation Fund is helping more than 10,000 people who were made ill by 9/11 and has determined they are eligible for more than \$1 billion in economic assistance because of the hardships and the losses they suffered.

So far medical research has identified more than 60 types of cancer caused by 9/11 toxins. Thousands suffer from diseases that don't go away in a year and sometimes don't present themselves for decades. Diseases and injuries that can make it impossible to find and keep work.

Making these programs permanent is the least that we as a grateful nation can do for our heroes and heroines of 9/11. I thank my colleagues Reps. JERROLD NADLER, PETER KING, and the entire New York delegation, as well as other Members from across the country who have committed to working together in this fight for reauthorization.

#### RECOGNIZING CORPORAL RICHARD VANA FOR ACTIONS DURING WORLD WAR II

### HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 14, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Corporal Richard Vana of the United States Marine Corps. Corporal Vana served during World War II and fought valiantly during the Battle of Okinawa. As a member of the Marine Raiders, Corporal Vana was just one of a small group who survived all 99 days of this bloody campaign.

On June 1, 1945 Corporal Vana was rejoining his company after filling in a defensive position when he came under mortar fire from the Japanese. During this mortar attack, Vana took shelter in a foxhole with another marine. Within moments, a neighboring foxhole was struck by mortar fire, and one of Corporal Vana's comrades was severely wounded. Under constant enemy fire, Corporal Vana and another marine, PFC Stuart Upchurch, helped to rescue the wounded marine and take him to shelter from the enemy. Corporal Vana and PFC Upchurch performed emergency lifesaving medical procedures until a Navy corpsman could provide assistance.

Without the heroic actions of Corporal Vana and PFC Upchurch the wounded marine surely would have died from his wounds. Their lifesaving action upheld the motto of the Marine Corps. The unwavering courage and gallantry Corporal Vana deserves the utmost respect and gratitude. These actions reflect great credit upon Corporal Vana, his unit, the U.S. Marine Corps, the U.S. Navy, and the United States of America.

#### CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNITY HOPE

### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 14, 2015*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Community Hope, Inc., located in Parsippany, New Jersey as it celebrates its 30th Anniversary.

Community Hope, a non-profit organization created in 1985, was created by families and mental health professionals who sought to provide a safe haven for young adults who were recovering from debilitating mental illnesses. Today, Community Hope offers housing and essential services to young adults and individuals recovering from mental illness. This non-profit strives to be a model for organizations seeking to assist people suffering from mental illness by implementing a comprehensive housing and support program for these individuals. Community Hope's mission is to support people and their families, including veterans, in combating mental illness, addiction, poverty, and homelessness.

For thirty years Community Hope has offered housing and care for those suffering from mental illness. Community Hope's first therapeutic residence included professional counselors who assisted individuals in successfully transitioning back to communal and familial life after years of psychiatric hospitalization. In 2004, Community Hope proudly opened the largest transitional housing program in New Jersey for homeless veterans.

Over the past fifteen years, Community Hope has vastly expanded its operations. During the course of these fifteen years, Community Hope has increased the number of individuals it assists from 57 to over 400. The non-profit has also increased its budget by almost \$10 million since the year 2000. Originally operating under the name Project Hope, the organization currently inspires hope through its several housing facilities, including the Valley Brook Village at Lyons Veterans Hospital, which assists veterans and individuals at risk of becoming homeless.

Community Hope continues to expand its presence in New Jersey with the goal of assisting as many people recovering from mental illness as possible. In particular, this non-profit launched its multi-year 450 Campaign in 2011. Through this campaign, Community Hope seeks to serve as many as 450 individuals a day who require assistance. The 450 Campaign was so successful that it has transformed into the 1,250 Campaign, with the goal of assisting 1,250 individuals in one calendar year. Community Hope has also expanded its role in helping veterans and their families through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program. Community Hope was one of the first organizations to be awarded an SSVF grant to establish this program, and now is the largest SSVF Program in New Jersey.

Community Hope also hosts events to raise awareness about mental health issues and fund its operations. Community Hope's upcoming events include its Flag Day 5k Run and Fun Walk, the 19th Annual Sparkle of Hope Gala, and its Annual Learning Forum and Wellness Fair, which is focused on contemporary living and spirituality.