

MR. CHAIRMAN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND INTRODUCTION.

LET ME ALSO THANK GLADYS REED FOR HER WORK AS HOST COMMITTEE CHAIR.

AND TO OUR GREAT EMCEE, ELLIOT RODRIGUEZ, THANK YOU!

THANK YOU ALL FOR INVITING ME TO JOIN YOU THIS EVENING.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, DEAR FRIENDS...

THERE IS AN OFTEN QUOTED SAYING THAT STATES:

"THE MEASURE OF A SOCIETY IS HOW WELL IT TREATS ITS MOST VULNERABLE, ESPECIALLY THE ELDERLY..."

THE INTERESTING THING ABOUT THIS QUOTE IS THAT IT HAS BEEN SAID BY SO MANY PEOPLE THROUGHOUT HISTORY, THAT WE DON'T REALLY KNOW WHO ORIGINALLY SAID IT.

BUT, ALL OF US IN THIS ROOM KNOW WHAT THIS QUOTE MEANS, BECAUSE WE ARE ALL ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN ITS REALITY.

THE TRUTH IS THAT THE WAY WE TREAT OUR ELDERLY - OUR PARENTS AND OUR GRANDPARENTS - SAYS EVERYTHING ABOUT US, AND WHO WE ARE.

THIS IS WHY I AM SO PLEASED TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS EVENING TO CELEBRATE AND HONOR THE WORK OF UNITED HOMECARE - AND THEIR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY.

MY ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE IT A TOP PRIORITY TO CARE FOR OUR SENIORS, AND WE ARE ALL WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE SENIORS CAN AGE WITH THE DIGNITY THEY SO DESERVE.

OUR PARTNERS AT UNITED HOMECARE ARE A VITAL PART OF THIS COMMITMENT, AND THEY GIVE OUR SENIORS DIGNITY AND THE ABILITY TO LIVE THEIR GOLDEN YEARS IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY.

IT IS ALSO FITTING THAT TONIGHT'S AWARDS ARE NAMED AFTER SENATOR CLAUDE PEPPER, A MAN WHOSE PUBLIC SERVICE WAS DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY.

A TIRELESS CHAMPION FOR SENIORS, HIS LEGACY IS AN EXAMPLE FOR US ALL.

TONIGHT, WE HONOR HIS MEMORY, WE HONOR UNITED HOMECARE, AND WE HONOR OUR CONTINUED DUTY TO DO ALL WE CAN TO CARE FOR OUR ELDERLY.

AND NOW, ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS PROCLAMATION NAMING TODAY UNITED HOMECARE DAY.

THANK YOU AND I WISH YOU MANY MORE DECADES OF SUCCESS!

