

this drug works, Hannah did not initially recognize the signs of addiction.

Just last year when Hannah realized that she had become dependent on heroin, she went to Urgent Care to get help. The only “help” they could give her was a taxi voucher home. The following day, she returned to the hospital where, again, she was handed a taxi voucher and sent away. In desperation, Hannah called her mom for help. Unfortunately, like most families, Hannah’s family understood very little about addiction and heroin. They were unfamiliar with what steps to take to get Hannah the help she needed and they did what they thought was best. Hannah’s family sent her to a treatment center, a path which they now understand was ineffective and inadequate on many levels.

Given that Hannah didn’t match the heroin addict stereotype her family had in their minds, as she continued on in college they thought everything was essentially under control. Even after the course of treatment, none of Hannah’s family understood the insidiousness of this drug, the relentless grip of addiction, nor the absurd statistical odds against Hannah’s survival. Although Hannah’s active addiction only lasted for several months, she relapsed with someone she had met at the treatment center. Hannah was able to bounce back and when she began her senior year of college, she believed she was well-equipped to manage her addiction and her family did too.

Then on March 9, 2016, she died. Hannah’s tragic and untimely death at the age of 22 has shaken her family to its deepest core.

Like many young students during finals, Hannah stayed up for many nights in a row studying. She did not die from a heroin overdose—smart, witty, Hannah made a calculation error. She did not factor exhaustion into the equation when taking “just a little” heroin to go to sleep. The dose of heroin itself did not kill her; because she was so exhausted the heroin fatally compromised her natural reflexes to re-position herself while she slept. With her head surrounded by an array of pillows, she slowly suffocated. Hannah did not want to die; the morning of her death she had just turned in one of the last term papers she needed to earn her Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology. On the floor next to her bed was a pile of LSAT study books and underneath her pillow was a “To Do” list.

CHRISTOPHER MATTHEW “CHRIS” HONOR—
SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Chris was an average student and loved history class. He played various sports and could spout out statistics about any team. He wanted to become a sports broadcaster and did work for a few seasons with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats baseball team.

When Chris was 12 years old, his mother first started noticing some troubling signs. Chris became more defiant and his moods would change rapidly, from extreme highs to deep lows. He scratched at scabs on his arms as a means of escaping feeling. Chris’ parents went to court and begged the judge to get Chris evaluated for bipolar disorder. Chris’ mother was accused of wanting to simply medicate her difficult child, but all she wanted was to give him a fair shot at life and help him learn to deal with the overwhelming feelings. Soon after, Chris’ mother found out he had started experimenting with marijuana.

When Chris was 17, he was picked up by the police when he was high on ecstasy. After a big fight, Chris left his father’s house and went to live with some friends and later, his grandmother. Chris decided he would finish his senior year of high school by taking night classes. He graduated in 2011, got a job

and started college. Things were looking up. When Chris turned 18, he moved in with a couple of friends and things quickly began to slip. One of his roommates was selling drugs and the police were watching the apartment. One night, the cops raided the apartment and everyone inside was arrested. After that, Chris was subject to random drug testing.

In 2013, Chris was sent to the county jail for eight months, after threatening his grandmother. When he got out, Chris and his girlfriend, reunited and began abusing drugs together. Chris eventually checked into a treatment center; but once he was stable, the facility needed the bed and Chris was released. Later, when Chris told his probation officer he wouldn’t test clean, he was sent back to jail for the weekend.

The summer after that seemed like a dream for Chris and his girlfriend; they were always laughing and taking endless walks together. On September 25, 2014, Chris’ mother got a call from his girlfriend saying Chris was going back to jail for 20 days. Four days later, Chris called from jail to tell his mother that his girlfriend had died from an overdose. He said if he had been home he could have saved her.

Chris was never the same after that and went back to abusing drugs immediately after being released and he was picked up again by the police on April 15, 2015. When he was released from jail on September 3rd, Chris seemed to be doing well. He applied for a job, and later that day he scheduled a time to get vivitrol shots. The next day Chris called his mother depressed because he missed his girlfriend and said that he never truly dealt with her death. On September 5th, the Jordan family were woken up in the early morning by a policewoman telling them that Chris was found dead.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOHN GLENN

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the passing of John Glenn. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Annie, his family, and the countless others who are mourning this great loss.

John Glenn was a decorated World War II Marine Corps Fighter Pilot who broke the transcontinental speed record. A pioneer astronaut who was the first American to orbit the earth, and he later became the oldest man in space at the age of 77. He was a distinguished statesman who represented Ohio in the United States Senate. But most importantly, he was a family man who married his childhood sweetheart, Annie, and enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

I count myself lucky to have had the opportunity to spend some time with Senator Glenn and I will cherish those moments for the rest of my life. Today is a sad day for the State of Ohio and for the United States of America. John Glenn was an American hero and his life and legacy will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING THE 2016 MVLE ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2016 MVLE Annual Award Recipients.

For 45 years, MVLE has provided employment opportunities and support services to individuals with disabilities and thereby created an environment which has allowed its clients to live in dignity and as independently as possible. MVLE has achieved this success by partnering with local businesses as well as with government agencies and other not-for-profit organizations. MVLE, its staff, and dedicated volunteers and supporters can be proud that they are making a positive difference in someone’s life every day.

Each year, MVLE honors individual participants, as well as business and community partners, who support MVLE’s mission. I am pleased to include the names of the following 2016 award recipients:

The President’s Award is being presented to individuals who have shown outstanding progress toward gaining independence and self-sufficiency through participation in employment and community services. The 2016 President’s Award recipients are Ashley Carter, Wei Lung Lin, Jennifer Quinn, and Jose Mananzan.

The Chairman’s Award is being presented to an outstanding business partner who has demonstrated excellence in hiring practices, creating supportive work environments, and supporting the mission of MVLE. The 2016 Chairman’s Award recipients are Chick-fil-A of Dumfries and Chick-fil-A of Chantilly Place.

MVLE also presents four Community Awards for Government, Employment, Social Responsibility, and Integration.

The Government Champion Award is being presented to the Defense Acquisition University in recognition of its commitment to the creation of meaningful employment opportunities across government and business sectors.

The Employment Partner Award is being presented to Sharp Business Systems of Washington, DC in recognition of its efforts to create meaningful community employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and military veterans.

The Advocacy Champion Award is being presented to state Delegate Patrick Hope, who represents Virginia’s 47th District. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who advocates for community integration by fostering partnerships across sectors to create new opportunities for the disabilities community.

The Social Responsibility Award is being presented to The Paul Mitchell School of Woodbridge, Virginia. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who supports MVLE and our community through contributions and volunteer work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending MVLE for its success in helping individuals with disabilities achieve independence and in congratulating the 2016 MVLE Annual Award recipients. The efforts of MVLE, its supporters, community partners, and clients are an inspiration to all and are worthy of our highest praise.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANA
RODRIGUEZ

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Ana Rodriguez, Director of Community Relations and Volunteer Services at Mount Sinai Queens, who was honored for her achievements as part of Women's History Month. Ms. Rodriguez is a dedicated, compassionate, and beloved representative for the hospital. She attends countless community meetings and is always cheerful and well informed.

In her role at Mount Sinai Queens, Ms. Rodriguez works with community organizations and community leaders to ensure that the hospital best serves its community. In addition, she coordinates educational health programs and events to promote awareness about health issues in the community. Ms. Rodriguez also works with people of all ages and all walks of life who are interested in volunteering, in order to ensure that the hospital's patients are served in the most meaningful way possible.

Ms. Rodriguez has also been an important advocate for children. From 1993 through 1999, she worked with Greater New York Councils, Boy Scouts of America. In her role as Associate Director, Ms. Rodriguez served youth in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx through the Urban Emphasis and Scoutreach Program. She collaborated with school principals, religious institutions, and community organizations to establish new scouting programs.

For six years, Ms. Rodriguez served adolescents, as well as adults, as a senior clinical social worker at the New York Presbyterian Hospital. Here, she provided mental health services, and worked with young men and women to empower them to reach their full potential.

Ms. Rodriguez has been celebrated by the community for her achievements. For example, Centro de Desarrollo de la Mujer (Center for Women Development) has presented her with a Woman of the Year Award for her community service. Her work has also been recognized by the Office of the Borough President of Manhattan, and she has received the Peter Vallone, Jr. Award from the 114th Precinct Civilian Observation Patrol for her dedication to the people of Astoria and Long Island City.

Ms. Rodriguez has a Bachelor of Science from Hunter College and a Master's degree in social work from Columbia University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the wonderful work of Ms. Rodriguez and her tireless service to her community.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD
HUNTER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Rich-

ard Hunter of Indianola, Iowa, for completing this year's Des Moines Triathlon at age 85.

Dr. Hunter did not begin competing in triathlons until after his retirement from medicine at 67. He remained committed to his training even after he returned to medicine, not retiring again until 82. He participated in the famed Ironman triathlon, which took him on a journey all over the world to compete. After moving to Indianola to be closer to his family, Dr. Hunter wondered how he would continue to train when he did not have an ocean to swim or bike trails to challenge him. He soon discovered that he could continue training at the local YMCA. The hard work paid off. Not only did he complete the 2016 Des Moines Triathlon, but he was also the oldest participant by 11 years in the sprint race.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Dr. Hunter for having the discipline and determination to compete in this rigorous competition. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representative join me in congratulating him and in wishing him nothing but continue success.

JAMES MADISON LEGACY
PROJECT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the James Madison Legacy Project, a nationwide teacher professional development program, currently being implemented in Oregon by the Classroom Law Project, a civic education non-profit in Portland, Oregon. Led by Executive Director Marilyn Cover, Classroom Law Project brings vital and engaging civics and law-related education programs into the classrooms across Oregon, teaching students of all grade levels the values and skills essential to being a participating citizen in our democracy. Each year, Classroom Law Project's innovative, practical, and fun programs involve and inspire over 800 teachers and 60,000 Oregon students.

The James Madison Legacy Project, made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Supporting Effective Educator Development program, is a three year nationwide initiative of the Center for Civic Education that recently entered its second year. The project aims to provide professional development for over 2000 teachers of high-need students, help over 200,000 students meet state standards in civics and government, serve the self-identified professional development needs of more than 500 participating schools with significant concentrations of high-need students throughout the United States. The project will also evaluate the relative effectiveness of the Center's traditional We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution professional development model enhanced with online resources compared with a new blended-learning variation of the traditional model that also uses online resources.

The key goals of the James Madison Legacy Project are providing the best practices in civic education directly to teachers and identifying cost-effective ways to provide accessible professional development programs, particularly for teachers in high-needs schools. With exceptional professional development, teach-

ers are better equipped to help students gain the knowledge and skills necessary in a participatory democracy.

Through the James Madison Legacy Project, Oregon teachers are learning directly from current and past members of the Oregon Supreme Court, constitutional scholars, and master teachers. The project includes follow-up services so that teachers can more readily implement what they learn in their classrooms. Future professional development will include opportunities to examine primary source documents from our country's founding, a private tour of the Oregon Historical Society and exhibit on the Founders, and lectures from First and Fourteenth Amendment scholars. Teachers will also have an exclusive behind the scenes view of the renowned Oregon High School State We the People Competition in January 2017.

The Center for Civic Education and Oregon's Classroom Law Project are at forefront of innovative and equitable civic education in America, and I look forward to their continued success and accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING FAMILIES AF-
FECTED BY THE NATIONAL
OPIOID EPIDEMIC

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to include in the RECORD today the personal stories of families from across the country that have been affected by the opioid and heroin epidemic. In the U.S. we lose 129 lives per day to opioid and heroin overdose. In my home state of New Hampshire, I have learned so many heartbreaking stories of great people and families who have suffered from the effects of substance use disorder.

Earlier this year, my colleagues and I were joined by many of these courageous families who came to Washington to share their stories with Members of Congress and push for action that will prevent overdoses and save lives. Since then, we passed both the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act and the 21st Century Cures Act to provide much needed funding and critical policy changes to fight this epidemic.

The advocacy of these families truly is so important to leading to change in Washington and I am proud to preserve their stories.

ERIK LEE BLOM—FAIRVIEW, TENNESSEE

Erik's death has devastated his entire family. He was an extremely gifted and creative young man whose keen wit and empathetic heart is missed everyday.

Erik began to abuse substances in 7th grade. His sister remembers the day he made the mistake of wearing bike shorts to school—he was bullied everyday after that. Eventually, Erik made a conscious decision to be tougher than anyone else and his tender heart began to harden with the belief that it was best not to feel—never to cry. Erik was intelligent, frustrated, and bored. The school thought he would benefit from being challenged in a gifted class and it did seem to help some, but he would still disappear to a place that we couldn't seem to reach. Erik's depression and anxiety kept him off-balance and he started self-medicating with marijuana before moving on to