

HONORING FEDERAL HEALTH  
WORKERS DEPLOYED TO SPAR-  
ROW HOSPITAL IN LANSING

**HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic caregivers at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Michigan, including the Department of Defense medical team which has been providing critical assistance as the hospital has grappled with a surge in COVID patients over the last few months.

In early February 2022, as the omicron variant drove case levels to new heights, a team of 23 federal medical personnel, including physicians, registered nurses, and respiratory therapists, arrived in Lansing to provide much-needed help to Sparrow's staff. The team has spent the past month providing invaluable aid to the hospital's overtaxed Emergency Department, and in other areas of the hospital overwhelmed by extraordinarily high patient volumes. This team has worked alongside Sparrow's staff with grace, grit, and professionalism, and they have been invaluable to the hospital's service to the Greater Lansing area. Michigan's healthcare heroes, including the staff at Sparrow Hospital, have been on the frontlines of this battle for the past two years under the most intense and stressful conditions. But their commitment to the safety and health of our community never wavered. I've heard stories of caregivers who have held the phone to the ear of a dying patient so a family could say goodbye; others who have developed special relationships with patient's loved ones; and some who have worked with tireless dedication only to break down in their cars at the end of the day from what they're living through.

Sparrow Specialty Hospital leaders even organized a wedding ceremony—bringing decorations from home and filling in the wedding party—for a COVID patient who realized the shortness of life and decided to marry his longtime love as soon as possible. While the dedication shown by our health workers is remarkable, so too is the emotional and physical strain they've been put under.

The brave men and women of the military are called to serve their country, and we are so grateful to this team for the immense relief they have provided in the battle against this invisible enemy. I will never forget the cheers and tears I saw firsthand as the team arrived, in uniform, marching down Sparrow's hallway. I knew immediately they would feel right at home alongside the mission-driven team at Sparrow, and that this partnership would yield much-needed hope and relief.

We are so grateful to all who have cared for and comforted COVID patients and their families through two years of unrelenting demands, and to this remarkable partnership between the Department of Defense medical team and Sparrow Hospital. On behalf of a grateful community and nation, it is my great honor to record their remarkable service to Mid-Michigan so that their actions may be known to all.

ABEL UBALLE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Abel Uballe for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Abel Uballe is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Abel Uballe is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Abel Uballe for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM EMMER**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I was regrettably unable to vote on March 8, 2022. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 5681 and "yes" on H. Con. Res. 70.

NA'JAILAH SILLEMON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Na'jailah Sillemmon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Na'jailah Sillemmon is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Na'jailah Sillemmon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Na'jailah Sillemmon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

BIANCEN ESTRASDA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Biancen Estrasda for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Biancen Estrasda is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Biancen Estrasda is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Biancen Estrasda for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BYRON DONALDS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed two of yesterday's votes. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on roll-call No. 65.

OBETH PEREZ LUNA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Obeth Perez Luna for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Obeth Perez Luna is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Obeth Perez Luna is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Obeth Perez Luna for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

ELIJAH MONRTENSEN-MEDINA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 11, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elijah Monrtensen-Medina for receiving the Arvada

Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Elijah Monrtensen-Medina is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elijah Monrtensen-Medina is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard

work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Elijah Monrtensen-Medina for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.