



Assemblyman  
SHELDON SILVER  
64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

THE ASSEMBLY  
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ALBANY

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The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
1651 3rd Avenue, Suite 311  
New York, NY 10128

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler  
201 Varick Street, Suite 669  
New York, NY 10014

Dear Congresswoman Maloney and Congressman Nadler,

I want to thank you both for your support and leadership in our effort to help Lower Manhattan recover from the devastation of 9/11. Your diligent efforts to gain enactment of HR 847, the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, which would provide long-term, comprehensive care and compensation to those made ill as a result of the attacks on the World Trade Center (WTC), has been invaluable to the city and essential to the recovery of our Lower Manhattan community.

I have recently become aware of threats to the Community Program that, under the legislation, would treat downtown residents, office workers and students for their WTC-related illnesses. Specifically, there are fears that the Community Program may be eliminated or limited in scope in concession to legislators seeking to minimize the federal commitment.

As you know, the toxins that emanated from Ground Zero and affected many of our brave first responders has also taken a toll on the health of my constituents. More than 4,000 people combined are currently being treated at the WTC Environmental Health Center at Bellevue, Gouverneur and Elmhurst Hospitals. Many residents have shared with me worries about what the future may bring for themselves and the downtown community, including the many children who lived and attended school in Lower Manhattan on 9/11 and during the months afterward.

As a nation, we must not break faith with the survivors of 9/11, who courageously resolved to rebuild their lives and our community in the face of the worst terrorist attack in American history. Our nation has a moral obligation to rebuild and revitalize this community. I trust that you will do everything in your power to protect the Community Program, which is a resource vital to the health of Lower Manhattan residents and to ensure that its scope, quality and level of support are preserved.

Thank you again for your commitment to improving the health and well being of our Lower Manhattan community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheldon Silver". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sheldon" and last name "Silver" clearly distinguishable.

SHELDON SILVER  
Speaker of the NYS Assembly