

I would like to recognize the efforts of the thousands upon thousands of construction professionals for the role they played which, in many instances, went above and beyond what might be considered normal duty to ensure everyone had the spaces and places they need to receive the health care they deserved. For their work retrofitting hundreds of businesses to meet the demand for PPE across this country to transforming sports venues to house the sick and injured. The construction professionals are true hero's that should be recognized for their contribution to addressing the COVID-19 pandemic here and abroad.

This is uncharted territory. But I know it is the very nature of our industry to work together, mitigate risk, plan for contingencies, adapt and think on our feet. We should take great pride in an industry that works quickly and collaboratively to share information, best practices, adjust our operating procedures and do what's best for the country who is still feeling the impact of COVID-19.

This pandemic is going to have resounding effects that will include health, personal finances, employment, businesses and the overall economy. And given those circumstances, there is a natural increased risk for depression and anxiety, especially given the isolation of social distancing.

We need to take this as an opportunity to improve our industry and expand our safety dedication to total human health.

Today, I am asking you to please remember to look up from the bids, books, plans and contracts to reach out to the men and women on our jobsites or working from home that need us now more than ever. The men and women that make possible our existence. Call to check in. Ask how they are doing. Offer to drop off supplies. Let "I'm here for you" be a life preserver for the person drowning in despair.

May this tragedy serve as a call to action to put resources in place on our jobsites and in our industry to proactively engage with our employees beyond their physical health and safety, but their mental health and safety as well.

The fabric of American is made up of a resilient and diverse population, and it is often the difficulties we face that provide the catalyst for a safer industry and greater society. While the landscape ahead is uncharted territory, we can rest in the hope that the days ahead of us will be brighter than we could have imagined.

Finally, our thoughts and prayers are with those who are infected and battling this disease and the fear of the unknown. Stay safe and healthy.