



**November 2025**  
**Public Policy & Government Relations Update**  
**Volume 1: Issue 9**

**Introduction**

In this November issue of the Public Policy and Government Relations update, we will focus on opportunities to transform concern about the threats to Medicaid, healthcare and HIV funding into action.

As we move into Thanksgiving and the end of the year, there is much to be thankful for within a reality of existential threats to HIV, healthcare and Medicaid funding. The recent November 4<sup>th</sup> election saw high voter engagement in New York City and voters chose new leaders across the country. The economic outlook for New York State continues to improve, but Medicaid still faces a deficit. The federal shutdown has ended, and federal funding for essential programs are being released, however no action was taken to address healthcare, and the agreement to fund government only extends through early next year.

In this environment, PPGR has been focused on action. As you read on you will learn about our efforts to engage with decision makers, and to activate the community to act. We are thankful that our community partners are willing to join us in action, we ask that you join us as well.

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## Opportunities to Act

PPGR invites you to join Amida Care in action. Our team, in collaboration with Communications and our CEO, Doug Wirth is working with our community partners to engage in action.

### HR1 Public Accountability Campaign

Amida Care has brought together a group of over 14 organizations from across New York State to run an educational public accountability campaign with a core message **“Congress, repeal, replace and reduce harm. Restore Medicaid funding and renew APTCs”**. This campaign will start with three phases and run over the course of the year in the lead up to next year’s general election.

**MEDICAID for US • New York**

In July, Congress narrowly passed a terrible bill that triggers a **PUBLIC HEALTH AND ECONOMIC CRISIS** across the country. Seven New York State members of Congress permitted this to happen! **New York State will lose:**

- \$13.5 billion in health care funding
- Coverage for 1.5 million New Yorkers
- \$14.4 billion in hospital-generated economic activity, resulting from \$8 billion in cuts
- At least \$300 million in cuts to health centers
- 65,000 jobs due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

These cuts will hurt all New Yorkers by weakening the entire healthcare system we all rely on.

**Congress, Repeal, Replace, Reduce Harm. Restore Medicaid funding and renew APTCs.**

Regardless of where you live, call your member of Congress in their district offices, especially if your Congressional member voted for these disastrous cuts. Tell them you are outraged by these cuts to your healthcare.

**DISTRICT IMPACT**

**LONG ISLAND (NY1)**

- 47,515 New Yorkers will lose healthcare coverage
- \$413,900,000 in lost hospital-generated economic activity
- 1,811 jobs lost due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

**LONG ISLAND (NY2)**

- 47,285 New Yorkers will lose healthcare coverage
- \$255,206,000 in lost hospital-generated economic activity
- 1,122 jobs lost due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

**SOUTHERN ISLAND (NY11)**

- 51,984 New Yorkers will lose healthcare coverage
- \$275,762,000 in lost hospital-generated economic activity
- 1,213 jobs lost due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

**MID-HUDSON VALLEY (NY17)**

- 31,189 New Yorkers will lose healthcare coverage
- \$616,822,000 in lost hospital-generated economic activity
- 2,713 jobs lost due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

**NORTHEAST NY AND THE ADIRONDACK REGION (NY21)**

- 44,822 New Yorkers will lose healthcare coverage
- \$367,481,000 in lost hospital-generated economic activity
- 1,616 jobs lost due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

**WESTERN NY (NY23)**

- 34,672 New Yorkers will lose healthcare coverage
- \$328,347,000 in lost hospital-generated economic activity
- 1,409 jobs lost due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

**WESTERN NY (NY24)**

- 31,388 New Yorkers will lose healthcare coverage
- \$423,740,000 in lost hospital-generated economic activity
- 1,873 jobs lost due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

### Phase 1 (Ads)

The campaign starts with an ad that will run in two publications: El Diario on December 1<sup>st</sup> and in AmNY on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Phase 2 (Post Cards)

Starting during the week of December 1<sup>st</sup>, the partnering organizations engaged in the campaign will start receiving post cards with the same message as the ad. These will be filled out by clients and sent to the New York Congressional delegation.

Post Cards will be available at the Amida Care Office after December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please fill out a postcard and send it to your Congress Member.

Find your Congressman <https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>

**MEDICAID for US • New York**

from: \_\_\_\_\_

to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Health care is in crisis because of HR1. Reverse the cuts to Medicaid and the ACA, and extend the tax credits that make health care affordable. For more than 60 years, Medicaid has been a lifeline, cutting Medicaid means cutting US. Protect our care. Protect our future. Protect us. Before it's too late. #MedicaidForUSNY**

**From cuts to Medicaid, New York State will lose:**

- \$13.5 billion in health care funding
- Coverage for 1.5 million New Yorkers
- \$14.4 billion in hospital-generated economic activity, resulting from \$8 billion in cuts
- At least \$300 million in cuts to health centers
- 65,000 jobs due to cuts to hospitals and community health centers

### Phase 3 – Join Us in Taking Community Action

For the remainder of 2025 and up until November 2026, Amida Care will engage with our community partners to have rallies and other public manifestations in the districts of NY Congress members who can make a difference and reverse Medicaid, HIV and healthcare cuts. **Join us in taking action** – below are actions which are planned for December. We will keep you informed as further actions are scheduled.



## Shutdown Update

On November 12, 2025 the longest federal shutdown in United States history ended after 43 days. The shutdown caused major disruption and threatened funding for public assistance programs including food and heating assistance.

Unfortunately, the law that passed left several critical issues unresolved. The deal between some moderate Democrats and Republicans took no definitive action to extend tax credits that make ACA health insurance plans affordable, or to revise HR1 cuts to Medicaid. The Senate President did promise a vote on extending the tax credits by mid-December. Additionally, the deal only funds the federal government until January 30<sup>th</sup>. Congress will need to act to pass a budget by that date.

## PPGR Actions

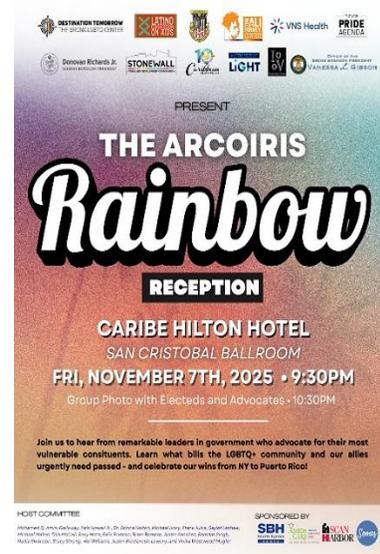
### November ACAP Fly-In

From November 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, Joe Pressley joined the Association for Community Affiliated Plans (ACAP) legislative fly-in in Washington D.C., attending both ACAP related meetings and meetings with Congressional and Senate representative offices. These meetings included Senate Minority leader Chuck Schumer, Congress Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressmember Nicole Malliotakis and Congressmember Nydia Velasquez.



### SOMOS Puerto Rico

From November 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, Lyndel Urbano and Pedro Carneiro participated in the annual SOMOS Inc. conference. Lyndel participated in a panel that was sponsored by the New York State Assembly Health Chair, Assembly Member Simone, and Senator Kristen Gonzalez. Amida Care also sponsored an LGBTQIA reception at the conference. The reception was attended by Senate Majority Leader Andrea Steward Cousins and over a dozen New York State elected officials.



### End The Epidemic Annual Summit

On December 9<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, PPGR will participate in New York State Department of Health's annual End the Epidemic Summit. At the summit our team will focus on networking to advance our policy priorities as they align with the commitment to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

## PPGR Round Up

As we move into the holiday season PPRG encourages you to join us in acting. Our action and advocacy matters, especially when we face pending threats to the essential programs and services we work to preserve and strengthen

**Sincerely,**  
**Joe Pressley, Lyndel Urbano & Casper Christiansen**

### Additional Reading

#### Trump signs deal to end longest US government shutdown in history

On Wednesday November 12<sup>th</sup>, President Donald Trump signed legislation ending the longest government shutdown in U.S. history, hours after the House of Representatives voted to restart disrupted food assistance, pay hundreds of thousands of federal workers and revive a hobbled air-traffic control system. The Republican-controlled chamber passed the package by a vote of 222-209, with Trump's support largely keeping his party together in the face of vehement opposition from House Democrats, who are angry that a long standoff launched by their Senate colleagues failed to secure a deal to extend federal health insurance subsidies. Read the full article [here](#).

#### Supreme Court Clears Way for Trump Transgender Passport Policy

After a lower court judge had temporarily blocked the administration's policy requiring that passports reflect sex as found on an original birth certificate, The Supreme Court cleared the way on Thursday for the Trump administration to stop issuing passports that include gender identity markings selected by applicants. "Displaying passport holders' sex at birth no more offends equal protection principles than displaying their country of birth — in both cases, the government is merely attesting to a historical fact without subjecting anyone to differential treatment," the justices who sided with the Trump administration wrote in an unsigned order. Read the full article [here](#).

#### Stefanik Launches Campaign to Challenge Gov. Hochul in New York

Representative Elise Stefanik of New York District 21, announced on Friday, November 7, 2025 that she will run for governor in 2026. The move, which she announced in a video, sets up a ferocious political battle between one of President Trump's fiercest allies and Gov. Kathy Hochul, a moderate Democrat. The contest is likely to be one of the key races in next year's crucial midterm elections. Read the full article [here](#).

#### KFF Analysis of Medicaid Enrollment & Spending Growth: FY 2025 & 2026

This brief analyzes Medicaid enrollment and spending trends for FY 2025 and FY 2026, based on data provided by state Medicaid directors as part of the 25th annual survey of Medicaid directors. 48 states (including the District of Columbia) responded to the 2025 survey, although response rates for specific questions varied. Read the full analysis [here](#).

## Court Affirms What the Country Knows—Marriage Equality Is the Law of the Land

On Monday November 10, 2025, the U.S. Supreme Court denied certiorari in a discredited petition that sought to overturn the historic 2015 ruling in *Obergefell v. Hodges* and create a religious exemption giving government employees a license to discriminate. Read Lambda Legal’s press release [here](#).

## **November 4 General Election Results**

### New York City Mayoral Result

Current New York State Assemblyman and Democratic Socialist of America (DSA) candidate Zohran Mamdani won his race for New York City Mayor.

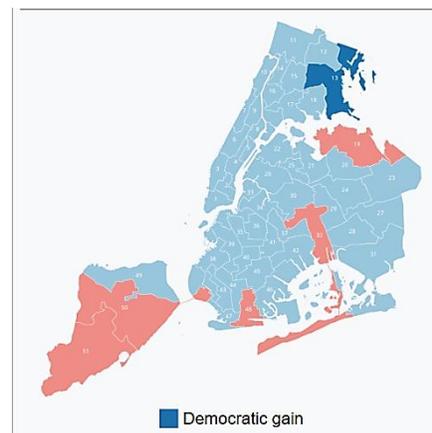
There were over 2 million votes cast for Mayor, making it the highest turnout for a city election since the 1960s.

With Mamdani’s victory, the focus will now shift to how he plans to enact his agenda of free childcare, free buses, freezing rent, and taxing the wealthy – all of which require approval from the State Government.

### New York City Council Result

Democrats retained control of the New York City council, picking up one seat.

- District 13 (Morris Park/Throggs Neck Bronx) - in 2023, Current Republican City Council member Kristy Marmorate flipped this seat to be the first Republican to represent a Bronx seat in decades. Democratic challenger Shirley Aldebol has won by about 5 points, flipping the seat back to Democrats.
- District 30 (Central Queens) - Current Democratic Councilmember Bob Holden is retiring. Democrat Phil Wong defeated Republican Alicia Vaichunas by about 10 points.
- District 47 (Southern Brooklyn) - Current Democratic Councilmember Justin Brannon is term-limited. Democrat Kayla Santosuosso won this seat over Republican George Sarantopoulos.



### New York City Charter Updates

New York City residents voted on 5 amendments to the New York City Charter. The proposals related to fast tracking affordable housing, simplifying the review of modest housing projects, establishing an affordable housing appeals board, moving the city elections to even years, lining it up with the presidential elections, and creating a digital city map to modernize city operations all passed by a significant margin. All but the proposal to move city elections to even years were approved.

### New York State Assembly District 115 – Special Election

Democrat Michael Cashman, the Plattsburgh Town Manager, has defeated Republican candidate and retired State Trooper, Brent Davison to fill Democrat D. Billy Jones' vacant Assembly seat. While this was an open Democratic seat, it's considered a swing district and is located in the heart of Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik's district, who is contemplating challenging Gov. Hochul next year.

### Upstate Mayoral Races

Democrats Dorcey Applyrs (Albany), Sharon Owens (Syracuse), and State Senator Sean Ryan (Buffalo) all easily won their mayoral elections. As expected, incumbent Democrat Mayor Malik Evans won a second term in Rochester.

In Binghamton, incumbent Republican Mayor Jared Kraham defeated challenger Miles Burnett. This race had garnered interest as the current Republican Mayor has been critical of ICE enforcement in his district, while his challenger is a progressive.

### Long Island Races

On Long Island, Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman easily won re-election with around 55% of the vote over Democratic challenger Seth Koslow. Republicans maintain their control over local governments in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

### Other Races of Interest

In Westchester County, incumbent Democratic County Executive Ken Jenkins, who overwhelmingly won a special election to fill Congressman George Latimer's seat in February, defeated Republican challenger Christine Sculti with over 64% of the vote. Republican County Executives in Orange and Rockland county were easily re-elected.

In the Hudson Valley, Democrat Jackie Salvatore, the current Columbia County Undersheriff, was elected Columbia County Sherriff, becoming the first woman of color elected as Sherriff in New York State.