



## **Amida Care, Colectivo Intercultural TRANSgrediendo, Community Healthcare Network (CHN), Destination Tomorrow, NEW Pride Agenda, and TransLatinx Network Celebrate HIV Prevention and Trans Health with New PrEP Campaign**

**April 18, 2024 (New York, NY)** — Amida Care, Colectivo Intercultural TRANSgrediendo, Community Healthcare Network (CHN), Destination Tomorrow, NEW Pride Agenda, and TransLatinx Network, a coalition of trans health organizations, are joining forces to launch [new videos](#) for their PrEP campaign, "My Body. My Life. My PrEP. #PrEPforYourLife (Mi Cuerpo. Mi Vida. Mi PrEP. #PrEPporTuVida)" celebrating HIV prevention and trans health. This bilingual (English/Spanish) campaign aims to educate the trans community on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), a game-changing medication that reduces the risk of HIV from sex by 99%.

The coalition launched the #PrEPforYourLife video campaign with a champagne reception today, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. "The NEW Pride Agenda is thrilled to join Colectivo Intercultural TRANSgrediendo, Community Healthcare Network (CHN), Destination Tomorrow, Amida Care, and TransLatinx Network at our Empowerment Center to celebrate the resilience and strength of the trans community," said Elisa Crespo, Executive Director of the NEW Pride Agenda. "Through our new PrEP campaign, we aim to erase the stigma surrounding HIV prevention and work towards equitable access to care for all trans and gender-expansive individuals."

The "My Body. My Life. My PrEP." campaign features photos, videos, and testimonials from trans advocates who use PrEP. By raising awareness to erase the stigma and misconceptions around PrEP, the coalition hopes to empower individuals to take control of their sexual health and make informed decisions.

Access is key. While PrEP uptake has increased in recent years, progress has been uneven. For example, of trans women who are HIV-negative and could benefit from PrEP, only 36% are using it. People of color face even greater disparities: of transgender women who are HIV positive, 62% of them are Black and 35% are Latinx. Trans women and trans men face significant barriers to accessing PrEP, such as discrimination in healthcare settings and a lack of providers who are trained in culturally responsive care.

"Barriers to PrEP for trans people include concerns about how PrEP might interact with hormones taken for gender affirmation. There is currently no reason why PrEP and hormones cannot be taken together," said Jessica Harvey, Transgender & Non-binary Health Navigator at Amida Care. "In addition, recent reports have proven that PrEP is effective regardless of any gender-affirming surgeries."

PrEP can be accessed for free or at a low cost in New York. New York State covers PrEP through Medicaid and most health insurance plans without any co-pays for medicines, lab work, or clinic visits. For those who are uninsured or undocumented, patient assistance programs are available to help cover the costs. People can obtain PrEP by visiting an NYC Sexual Health Clinic.

PrEP is available as a daily pill and as a long-acting injectable, with a new and improved long-acting injectable version of PrEP on the horizon. Long-acting injectable PrEP is a crucial step towards getting PrEP in the hands of those who need it: a much-needed option for those who experience challenges taking daily pills, such as those who are experiencing housing insecurity and economic hardships.



Through the My Body. My Life. My PrEP. campaign, this coalition aims to break down stigmas, discuss solutions, and promote a future where everyone has access to comprehensive, quality care. By working towards a world free of HIV/AIDS, they strive to ensure that no one is left behind.

For more information about the event and the coalition's PrEP campaign, follow the conversation on social media using the hashtag #PrEPforYourLife.

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**Amida Care Inc.** is a not-for-profit health plan that specializes in providing comprehensive health coverage and coordinated care to New Yorkers with complex conditions, including HIV and behavioral health disorders, and people who are of transgender experience or who are homeless (regardless of HIV status). Amida Care has a wide network of health care providers throughout New York City and is the largest Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan (SNP) in New York State. For more information, visit [www.amidacareny.org](http://www.amidacareny.org).

**Colectivo Intercultural Transgrediendo (CITG)** is an organization that works to promote and defend human rights and access to comprehensive health care for TransGNB, QBIPOC and Sex Workers, by strengthening the social and cultural expression of diverse gender and gender expansive, and intersex communities in New York City. By doing so, we seek to guarantee our well-being and the right to a life free from all types of violence. Learn more: <https://www.ourvoicesarefree.org/>

**Community Healthcare Network (CHN)** is a not-for-profit organization providing access to affordable, culturally competent and comprehensive community-based primary care, dental, nutrition, mental health and social services for diverse populations throughout New York City. CHN serves more than 65,000 individuals a year who would otherwise have little or no access to critical health care. CHN is composed of 14 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) along with a fleet of mobile vans that bring health services to underserved people in need throughout New York City. To learn more about CHN, visit our website at [www.chnny.org](http://www.chnny.org).

**Destination Tomorrow** is a grassroots agency and the LGBTQ+ center of the Bronx borough. It is our belief that no individual should have to leave his, her, or their neighborhood to access LGBTQ+ specific services. Learn more: <https://destinationtomorrow.org/>

**The NEW Pride Agenda (NPA)** is an advocacy and education, community-based organization that provides culturally competent and community-relevant programming by establishing safe, creative, and empowering spaces for queer and trans people of color who live at the margins within New York State. NPA intends to increase the number of BIPOC LGBTQ advocates across the state to build statewide power and combat anti-LGBTQ+ hate. For more information, visit: [www.newprideagenda.org](http://www.newprideagenda.org)

**Translatinx Network** has both a local and national focus, with a mission to promote the healthy development of trans people through the delivery of a wide range of information and services. Through promotion, outreach in education, and capacity-building, we encourage and strengthen the creation of safe and productive environments for TGNC+ community members. Learn more: <https://translatinxnetwork.org/>

Communications Contacts:

Veda Mathur | [vmathur@arcos-ny.com](mailto:vmathur@arcos-ny.com)

Roy Cosme | [rcosme@arcos-ny.com](mailto:rcosme@arcos-ny.com)