



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Community Healthcare Network Hosts
8th Annual Conference on Transgender Health:
*TRANSforming Social Justice through Healthcare***

- Co-Sponsored by Amida Care and The New School -

(New York, NY) – Community Healthcare Network (CHN), a federally qualified health center with 15 sites throughout New York City, will host its 8th Annual Conference on Transgender Health: ***TRANSforming Social Justice through Healthcare***, on October 18-19. The conference, hosted at The New School in New York City, is co-sponsored by Amida Care, New York's largest Medicaid not-for-profit Special Needs Health Plan.

"The conference explores the multiple issues that impact the lives and health of people of trans experience through the lens of social justice," said **Freddy Molano**, Vice President of Infectious Diseases and LGBTQ Programs at Community Healthcare Network. "Although amazing advancements have taken place on the clinical front, much more needs to be done to ensure there is a clear understanding of people of trans experience. Our conference will address that."

The event's keynote speakers are **Jason Robert Ballard**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer at FTM Magazine, and **Cecilia Gentili**, Director of Policy at GMHC.

The conference covers a range of clinical and social topics including the future of healthcare for people of trans experience, the importance of understanding gender fluidity and non-conformity, access to PrEP and PEP to prevent HIV infection, legal obstacles for trans-identifying individuals, behavioral health in transgender medical care, and gender-affirming surgery.

"People of transgender experience need and deserve access to comprehensive, culturally competent, gender-affirming health care," said **Doug Wirth**, President and CEO of Amida Care. "We need to break down the barriers that keep health care out of reach for many in the transgender community, including violence, lack of employment opportunities, housing

instability, and discrimination. Amida Care is proud to help organize this important, one-of-a-kind forum for ideas and solutions to address these disparities.”

Presenters include trans community leaders and activists and experts in clinical, behavioral, and legal services for transgender individuals, including NYC Council Speaker **Corey Johnson** and representatives from the NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute and Bureau of HIV Prevention and Control; CHN; Amida Care; Callen-Lorde Community Health Center; Mount Sinai Medical Center; Montefiore Medical Center; NYU Langone Health; NY Presbyterian; Visiting Nurse Service of NY; and NYC Health + Hospitals.

**Community Healthcare Network 8th Annual Conference on Transgender Health:
*TRANSforming Social Justice through Healthcare***

Thursday, October 18, 2018

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

The New School- 63 5th Avenue, New York NY 10011

Friday, October 19, 2018

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

The New School- 65 W 11th Street, New York NY 10011

Continuing Education Credits will be offered for participation in Friday’s session.

About Community Healthcare Network

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 in 12 underserved communities throughout New York City. CHN serves more than 85,000 individuals a year who would otherwise have little or no access to critical health care. CHN is composed of eleven Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and NCQA designated Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH) and a mobile health unit. To learn more about CHN visit our website at www.chnyc.org or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [Instagram](#).

About Amida Care

Amida Care Inc. is a not-for-profit health plan that specializes in providing comprehensive health coverage and coordinated care to New Yorkers with chronic conditions, including HIV and behavioral health disorders, and people who are of transgender experience or 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.

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