



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Community Healthcare Network Hosts
9th Annual Conference on Transgender Health:
*Inclusion & Visibility: Acceptance vs. Tolerance***

Amida Care is the lead health plan sponsor

(New York, NY) – Community Healthcare Network (CHN), a federally qualified health center with 15 sites throughout New York City, will host its 9th Annual Conference on Transgender Health: ***Inclusion & Visibility: Acceptance vs. Tolerance***, on October 24-25. The conference, hosted at The New School in New York City, is co-sponsored by Amida Care, New York’s largest Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan. Other conference sponsors are the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute, Mount Sinai, and Cicatelli Associates (CAI).

“For almost a decade, this conference has presented a rare opportunity to connect with and learn from leaders and experts in trans health,” said **Freddy Molano**, Vice President of Infectious Diseases and LGBTQ Programs and Services at Community Healthcare Network. “Although we have made tremendous progress on the clinical front, much more needs to be done to realize a society that truly accepts and celebrates people of trans experience.”

The event’s keynote speaker is **Tanya Asapansa-Johnson Walker, Co-Founder, New York Transgender Advocacy Group**.

The conference covers a range of clinical and social topics including the future of health care, managed care, sexuality, the transgender landscape in New York, legal concerns of people of trans experience, social media strategies to raise trans visibility, pre-surgical and post-surgical care and more.

“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. “This conference presents a unique opportunity to discuss the barriers that keep health care out of reach for too many in the transgender community, including lack of employment

opportunities, housing instability, and violence. Amida Care is proud to help organize and support this important, one-of-a-kind forum for ideas and solutions to address these disparities.” Amida Care recently released a report, “[Breaking Barriers to Transgender Health Care](#),” detailing the challenges and solutions to accessing health care faced by Americans of transgender experience.

Presenters include community leaders, activists, and experts of transgender experience as well as those who specialize in clinical, behavioral, and legal services for trans individuals, including **Health + Hospitals President and CEO Mitchell Katz, MD, NYC Department of Health Deputy Commissioner Demetre Daskalakis, MD, MPH, New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute Director Johanne Morne, New York State Senator Brad Hoylman,** New York Transgender Advocacy Group, CHN, Amida Care, Callen-Lorde, Legal Aid Society, Lenox Hill Transgender Health Program, Mount Sinai Center for Transgender Medicine and Surgery, and others. To register and for more information click [here](#).

Community Healthcare Network 9th Annual Conference on Transgender Health:

Inclusion & Visibility: Acceptance vs. Tolerance

Thursday, October 24, 2019

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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

Friday, October 25, 2019

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Theresa Lang Student Center - 55 W 13th 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 complex 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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