



Lynsey Billet, [lynsey@anatgerstein.com](mailto:lynsey@anatgerstein.com), 347-361-8449

## **Amida Care President and CEO Doug Wirth to Be Honored Among *City & State Pride Power 100***

(New York, June 25, 2019) - Doug Wirth, President and CEO of Amida Care, New York's largest Medicaid Special Needs health Plan (SNP), will be honored among the *City & State Pride Power 100* on June 27.

Pride Power honors the 100 most influential people in the LGBTQ community, in government, business, health care, journalism, the nonprofit sector, and more. Leaders from advocacy, academic, media and business communities, and beyond will gather for this special Pride recognition.

“It is a great honor to be among this very distinguished list of New Yorkers who have contributed so much energy and passion toward advancing social justice for the LGBTQ community,” said Wirth. “Together, we are making real strides toward LGBTQ equity here in New York, all the more important given the current national climate. We are lucky to live in a state that stands up for LGBTQ rights, and it is thanks to the efforts of leaders like Governor Andrew Cuomo and my fellow Pride Power honorees that we’ve come as far as we have. But we know there is much more to be done to combat homophobia, transphobia, discrimination, hatred, and stigma—barriers that keep people from living their best lives and accessing the culturally competent health care they deserve. At Amida Care, we are working to break down those barriers.”

Since 2006, Wirth has led Amida Care, a not-for-profit Medicaid Special Needs health Plan that specializes in providing comprehensive health coverage and coordinated care to New Yorkers living with or at elevated risk for HIV. Under Wirth's leadership, Amida Care has grown to serve 7,500 members in the five boroughs of New York City, including over 1,000 transgender individuals, and has produced positive health outcomes that have saved New York State \$150 million dollars from 2008 to 2017 in averted medical costs.

In 2014, Wirth served on Governor Andrew Cuomo's Task Force to End the AIDS Epidemic in New York State by 2020, which produced the Blueprint to reduce the rate of new HIV infections. Doug previously served as a Senior Health Policy Advisor to NYC Mayors David Dinkins and Rudolph Giuliani, which included chairing the HIV Mental Health and Strategic Planning/Evaluation Committees for the NYC Health & Human Services Ryan White Planning Council. As Director of Government Relations for the Coalition of Community Mental Health Agencies, Doug led the community organizing

effort that resulted in major mental health care reforms and \$250 million in community reinvestment across New York State.

### **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 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).