



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2021

Media Contact: Shakira Croce, Assistant Director of Communications

[scroce@amidacareny.org](mailto:scroce@amidacareny.org), (917) 565-4444

## **Amida Care Condemns Hate-Fueled Attack on Transgender Man and His Wife in NYC Subway**

(New York, NY—June 10, 2021) Amida Care, New York’s largest Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan designed for people affected by HIV, released the following statement from President and CEO Doug Wirth in response to recent news that [a transgender man and his partner were attacked](#) on a subway train from Times Square:

“Amida Care condemns the heinous and hateful attack on a transgender man and his wife in New York City this past week. Across the country, people of transgender experience are facing alarming acts of violence and hate crimes. This year, there have been at least 28 violent killings of transgender individuals.”

“Transgender and gender non-conforming people experience high levels of trauma, mistreatment, harassment, and violence. They face discrimination from family members, at work, in school, in the justice system, and in access to housing and health care. These barriers result in devastating health outcomes, as detailed in our [recent report](#).”

“Transgender individuals represent over 20% of Amida Care’s total membership, and Amida Care is proud to have a long history of supporting the transgender community in accessing high-quality, gender-affirming care. To date, more than 1,100 transgender Amida Care members have accessed gender-affirming surgery. Every trans member is surrounded by an integrated care team of providers, social workers, health navigators, behavioral health specialists, and a designated health home, which work together to address the needs of the whole person.”

“This kind of support leads to better health outcomes, including helping to end the HIV epidemic. Of Amida Care’s transgender members living with HIV, 93% are virally suppressed. Amida Care also assists transgender members who are HIV negative with accessing highly effective HIV prevention tools like pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).”

“This Pride Month, we reaffirm our commitment to advocating for health equity so that transgender individuals may live full, authentic lives. Transphobia and hate have no place in our society.”

### **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).