



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

## **Amida Care Applauds PrEP Access and Coverage Act**

*Legislation Would Expand Access to and Insurance Coverage for PrEP to Help Prevent HIV*

(New York – July 19, 2019) Doug Wirth, President and CEO of Amida Care, released the following statement in response to the introduction of the PrEP Access and Coverage Act in the House of Representatives:

“PrEP is a game-changing treatment regimen that has proven to be over 90% effective in preventing the transmission of HIV. Not only does PrEP enable people to take control of their health, it can save millions of taxpayer dollars associated with treating HIV. We thank Representatives Adam Schiff and Bonnie Watson Coleman for introducing the PrEP Access and Coverage Act, legislation that will greatly accelerate our efforts to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic.”

“Unfortunately, far too few people in communities at elevated risk for HIV -- including men who have sex with men, women of color, and members of the transgender and gender non-binary communities -- know about and have access to PrEP. If we are going to End the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in the United States by 2030, we need to work harder to connect those who are disproportionately impacted by HIV with PrEP. Thanks to the leadership of Governor Andrew Cuomo, public health officials, health care providers, and health care advocates, we’re making significant progress in New York, and the state is on its way to Ending the Epidemic by 2020.”

“This legislation would bring us closer to making PrEP accessible and affordable for everyone across the country. We encourage Congress to move swiftly to pass it and for the President to sign it into law so we can move one giant step closer to making HIV/AIDS history in the United States.”

### **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).