



For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Shakira Croce, Communications Manager
scroce@amidacareny.org, (646) 757-7052

Amida Care Congratulates New York City Council's New Speaker Corey Johnson

“Speaker Johnson is a champion for people living with HIV/AIDS and other chronic conditions, and is helping to end the AIDS epidemic.”

New York, NY (January 3, 2018) – [Amida Care](http://www.amidacareny.org), New York’s largest not-for-profit Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan (SNP), issued the following statement regarding the election of Corey Johnson as the next Speaker of the New York City Council:

“Congratulations to Council Member Corey Johnson on his election as the next New York City Council Speaker. Council Member Johnson is the first openly HIV-positive New York City Council Speaker and has always been a champion for improving the health of New Yorkers. We have been very fortunate to have him as a partner and supporter of our efforts to provide access to quality health care that produces positive health outcomes for people who are most in need,” said Doug Wirth, president and CEO of Amida Care.

“As Chair of the Health Committee, Council Member Johnson has led the Council’s effort to End the HIV/AIDS Epidemic. His dedication and energetic, passionate advocacy have contributed to New York City’s success in reducing the number of new HIV infections to a historic low, including working to reverse the trend of increased HIV infection among men who have sex with men (MSM).

Under his direction, we look forward to seeing the New York City Council build on these successes and continue to address the needs of communities facing health and socio-economic disparities, such as transgender and gender non-conforming New Yorkers, young MSM of color, and women of color, who have not yet seen a marked decrease in new HIV infections. We are grateful for Council Member Johnson’s continued partnership.”

###

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 homeless or of transgender experience (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.