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## **Amida Care Condemns the Trump Administration’s Reported Move to Roll Back Recognition and Protection for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Americans**

New York, NY (October 22, 2018) – This weekend, *The New York Times* reported that the Trump Administration is considering narrowly defining gender as a biological condition determined by genitalia at birth. This is the latest effort by the administration to roll back hard-fought protections and rights for Americans of transgender experience. Amida Care, the largest Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan in New York State and an advocate for the health care rights of the LGBTQ community, condemns the Trump Administration’s attempt to strip rights away from individuals of transgender experience. Amida Care has a long history of serving the transgender and gender non-conforming communities; 7% of Amida Care’s members identify as people of transgender experience.

“The proposed policy from the Trump Administration is another attack on the rights of transgender Americans, which will have a devastating impact on their health and well-being,” said Doug Wirth, President and CEO of Amida Care. “Despite what the administration would want you to believe, this policy is not ‘grounded in science.’ It is a policy born out of hatred and bigotry.”

According to *The New York Times* report, the Department of Health and Human Services is leading an effort to establish a more narrow legal definition of sex under Title IX, the federal civil rights law banning gender discrimination in education programs that receive financial support from the government.

“Millions of Americans of transgender experience already face unconscionable levels of discrimination, prejudice, violence, and harassment, and this policy will only serve to exacerbate this mistreatment,” Wirth continued. “In particular, this policy will make it more difficult for transgender Americans, who are already suffering from startling health disparities, to access health care. Rather than strip transgender Americans of their dignity and humanity, we should be taking concrete steps to support them and address the many obstacles facing the community to help them live healthy, productive, authentic lives.”

### **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 chronic 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).