



April 16, 2025

Dear CEO Leslie Davis and the UPMC Board of Directors,

We are outraged that UPMC has decided to begin denying full gender affirming medical healthcare for new and some existing patients under 19 years old at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (CHP) given the current circumstances following President Trump's Executive Order dated January 28, 2025. This care at UPMC's only gender clinic has been absolutely vital to the many young people who have depended on it for over a decade. You have saved the lives of countless transgender children and youth. Now you are putting those very lives in imminent danger and undoing years of community goodwill and trust you have tried so hard to rebuild.

By cutting off this care now, UPMC is voluntarily choosing anticipatory compliance without any promulgated regulation or court order. An Executive Order or memo mentioning potential future policies or regulations which then may threaten funding is not a mandate you are forced to adhere to right now. Even though federal courts have granted injunctions against this executive order, by UPMC agreeing to comply with a policy statement intimating illegal actions by our federal government, you are choosing to send a devastating message to the entire trans community that their health and futures are negotiable under political pressure. Continuing to provide comparable medical care to cisgender young people but not transgender youth is discrimination.

We are calling on UPMC to immediately restore access to protect gender affirming healthcare for trans youth and young adults currently being turned away. Gender affirming care for youth is medically necessary, life-saving healthcare, supported by every major medical organization in the United States based on decades of scientific, evidence-based, peer-reviewed research. Evidence shows that without access to these interventions, youth — especially to those just starting puberty — will be harmed. This includes suffering physical changes that are not easily reversible, lifelong trauma in some cases, and when they have no hope of access to care — death. Evidence demonstrates the positive impact of gender affirming medical care, and also that behavioral health alone is not enough to save the lives of trans children and youth.

You are being bullied into refusing care for some of our most vulnerable youth. This is not just about gender affirming care. If UPMC concedes now, we know what's coming next: attacks on emergency care for immigrants, reproductive care, Medicaid access, and services for disabled people, cancer patients, and others who rely on healthcare institutions for life-saving treatment.



We demand that UPMC:

- 1) Immediately reinstate full gender affirming care for new and existing patients at CHP in Pittsburgh given the current circumstances
- 2) Should a court order, law, or regulation specifically mandate UPMC cease direct gender affirming care for young trans people, UPMC must enthusiastically support and fund alternative providers to ensure trans youth receive the medically-necessary healthcare they need to survive
- 3) Establish an advisory committee for UPMC's administration on gender affirming care, comprised of transgender youth and community leaders, and healthcare professionals, to meet before May 1, 2025
- 4) Not retaliate against LGBTQ+ communities and continue funding for local LGBTQ+ programs and LGBTQ+ healthcare

UPMC must reject political pressure and fulfill its responsibility to provide healthcare without discrimination. It is a moral atrocity to deny young patients medical treatment that saves lives. This policy position expressed by our federal government is designed as the first step to eliminate trans people from our society. Anticipatory compliance makes you complicit in their efforts. Trans youth and young adults deserve care not cruelty.

Signed,

Mayor Ed Gainey
City of Pittsburgh

Attic Youth Center
Philadelphia, PA

R. Daniel Lavelle
Pittsburgh City Council President — District 6

Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT
Community Center
Allentown, PA

Barb Warwick
Pittsburgh City Councilmember — District 5

Centre LGBT+
State College, PA

Deborah Gross
Pittsburgh City Councilmember — District 7

Clinton County Pride Alliance
Lock Haven, PA

Erika Strassburger
Pittsburgh City Councilmember — District 8



Khari Mosley
Pittsburgh City Councilmember — District 9

Eastern PA Trans Equity Project
Orefield, PA

Dan Grzybek
Allegheny County Councilmember — District 5

Endless Mountains Pride
Towanda, PA

Bethany Hallam
Allegheny County Councilmember

Erie Gay News
Erie, PA

State Representative Joanna McClinton
Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of
Representatives
House District 191 — Delaware and Philadelphia
Counties

FC Pride in the Park
Aspinwall, PA

State Representative Jessica Benham
Co-Chair, Pennsylvania Legislative LGBTQ Equality
Caucus
House District 36 — Allegheny County

Hugh Lane Wellness Foundation
Pittsburgh, PA

State Representative Ismail Smith-Wade-El
Co-Chair, Pennsylvania Legislative LGBTQ Equality
Caucus
House District 49 — Lancaster County

Independence Business Alliance
Philadelphia, PA

State Senator Nikil Saval
Senate District 1 — Philadelphia County

LGBT Center of Central PA
Harrisburg, PA

State Senator Sharif Street
Senate District 3 — Philadelphia County

LGBT Center of Greater Reading
Reading, PA

State Senator Art Haywood
Senate District 4 — Montgomery and Philadelphia
Counties

LGBT Equality Alliance of Chester
County
Phoenixville, PA

State Senator Steven Santarsiero
Senate District 10 — Bucks County

Montgomery County LGBT
Business Council
Ambler, PA

New Hope Celebrates
New Hope, PA



State Senator Judith L. Schwank
Senate District 11 — Berks County

Pennsylvania Youth Congress
Harrisburg, PA

State Senator Maria Collett
Senate District 12 — Montgomery County

PFLAG Danville / Central
Susquehanna Valley
Danville, PA

State Senator Amanda Cappelletti
Senate District 17 — Montgomery and Delaware
Counties

PFLAG Greensburg
Greensburg, PA

State Senator Carolyn T. Comitta
Senate District 19 — Chester County

PFLAG Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA

State Senator Tim Kearney
Senate District 26 — Delaware County

PFLAG Royersford
Royersford, PA

State Senator Lindsey M. Williams
Senate District 38 — Allegheny County

Philadelphia Family Pride
Philadelphia, PA

State Senator Katie Muth
Senate District 44 — Berks, Chester, and
Montgomery Counties

Pittsburgh Equality Center
Pittsburgh, PA

State Representative Lindsay Powell
House District 21 — Allegheny County

Planned Parenthood Pennsylvania
Advocates
Harrisburg, PA

State Representative Joshua Siegel
House District 22 — Lehigh County

QueerNEPA
Kingston, PA

State Representative Dan Frankel
House District 23 — Allegheny County

Rainbow Alliance
Wilkes-Barre, PA

State Representative La'Tasha D. Mayes
House District 24 — Allegheny County

Reading Pride Celebration
Reading, PA

State Representative Paul Friel
House District 26 — Chester County

Schuylkill PrideFest
Pottsville, PA



State Representative Mandy Steele
House District 33 — Allegheny County

State Representative Abigail Salisbury
House District 34 — Allegheny County

State Representative Dan Miller
House District 42 — Allegheny County

State Representative Steve Malagari
House District 53 — Montgomery County

State Representative Greg Scott
House District 54 — Montgomery County

State Representative Liz Hanbidge
House District 61 — Montgomery County

State Representative Paul Takac
House District 82 — Centre County

State Representative Carol Hill-Evans
House District 95 — York County

State Representative Nikki Rivera
House District 96 — Lancaster County

State Representative Justin Fleming
House District 105 — Dauphin County

State Representative Maureen Madden
House District 115 — Monroe County

State Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz
House District 129 — Berks County

State Representative Jeanne McNeill
House District 133 — Lehigh County

Shenango Valley Pride Alliance
Sharon, PA

Trans Advocacy Pennsylvania
Lancaster, PA

TransCentral PA
Harrisburg, PA

TransPride YOUNiting Health &
Wellness Conference
Pittsburgh, PA

TransYOUNiting
Pittsburgh, PA

Tri-State Gender Collaborative
Pittsburgh, PA

Triversity Pride Center
Milford, PA

UDTJ
Upper Darby, PA

Washington County Gay Straight
Alliance, Inc.
Washington, PA

Welcome Project PA
Hatboro, PA

West Branch Pride
Williamsport, PA

William Way LGBT Community
Center
Philadelphia, PA



State Representative Peter Schweyer
House District 134 — Lehigh County

State Representative Tina Davis
House District 141 — Bucks County

State Representative Tim Briggs
House District 149 — Montgomery County

State Representative Joe Webster
House District 150 — Montgomery County

State Representative Melissa Cerrato
House District 151 — Montgomery County

State Representative Nancy Guent
House District 152 — Montgomery County

State Representative Benjamin Sanchez
House District 153 — Montgomery County

State Representative Napoleon Nelson
House District 154 — Montgomery County

State Representative Chris Pielli
House District 156 — Chester County

State Representative Melissa L. Shusterman
House District 157 — Chester County

State Representative Leanne Krueger
House District 161 — Delaware County

State Representative David M. Dellosa
House District 162 — Delaware County

State Representative Heather Boyd
House District 163 — Delaware County



State Representative Jennifer O'Mara
House District 165 — Delaware County

State Representative Kristine C. Howard
House District 167 — Chester County

State Representative Lisa Borowski
House District 168 — Delaware County

State Representative MaryLouise Isaacson
House District 175 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Joseph C. Hohenstein
House District 177 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Malcolm Kenyatta
House District 181 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Ben Waxman
House District 182 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Elizabeth Fiedler
House District 184 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Rick C. Krajewski
House District 188 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Tarik Khan
House District 194 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Danilo Burgos
House District 197 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Chris Rabb
House District 200 — Philadelphia County

State Representative Andre D. Carroll
House District 201 — Philadelphia County



Tyler Titus
Erie City Councilmember

Dan C. Miller
Harrisburg City Treasurer

Cathleen Pagano
Lower Gwynedd Township Auditor

Lori Schreiber
Montgomery County Clerk of Courts

Noah Marlier
Montgomery County Prothonotary

Wayde M. Weston, PhD
Perkiomen Valley School District Board Member

Kendra Brooks
Philadelphia City Councilmember

Rue Landau
Philadelphia City Councilmember

Nicolas O'Rourke
Philadelphia City Councilmember

Mayor Ezra Nanes
State College Borough

Mayor Dontae Comans
Wilkinsburg Borough

Amanda Barber
Wilkinsburg School District Board President

Ashley Comans
Wilkinsburg School District Board Member