

TO: mediateam@geisinger.edu, patientliaisons@geisinger.edu, diversity@geisinger.edu

SUBJECT: Thank you for standing up for gender affirming care

Dear Geisinger,

I am writing to express my gratitude that Geisinger continues to offer gender affirming care to your patients.

As I'm sure you appreciate, gender-affirming care is lifesaving medical treatment validated and recommended by every major medical association, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology, and the American Psychological Association.

A wide body of scientific literature has consistently found that gender-affirming care improves overall health outcomes and well-being for transgender and gender-expansive patients while significantly reducing depression and suicidality. This extends to transgender and nonbinary youth, who are particularly vulnerable in our present moment. A [2022 study in the Journal of the American Medical Association](#) found that receipt of gender-affirming care in transgender and nonbinary youth, including puberty blockers and hormone treatments, was associated with 60% lower odds of moderate or severe depression and 73% lower odds of suicidality.

Geisinger's continued commitment to serving the LGBT+ community, especially gender-diverse patients and transgender youth, is deeply appreciated during this time of profound challenge for transgender people.

I recognize that there are attempts to demonize trans people and the providers who care for them, and that there are attempts to restrict and eliminate gender affirming care, especially for trans youth.

Thank you for not bowing to anti-scientific pressures that are based in bias and disinformation. Thank you for standing strong on the fact that gender affirming care is well-established medical fact and lifesaving medical treatment. Thank you for standing up for transgender people and continuing to save trans lives.

I urge you to please continue this vital work. Please continue caring for trans youth. Please continue offering gender affirming care. Please continue saving trans lives.

Thank you,