



**CONTACT:** Kathryn Knox Soman  
212-908-8588  
[somank@metroplus.org](mailto:somank@metroplus.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **METROPLUS HEALTH PLAN CEO TALYA SCHWARTZ, M.D., AMONG TOP CITY LEADERS TO DISCUSS NYC'S POPULATIONS MOST VULNERABLE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC IN SPECIAL CITY & STATE WEBINAR**

*MetroPlusHealth President and CEO, Talya Schwartz M.D., to join other City leaders in a special panel discussion addressing New York City communities especially at risk during the COVID-19 public health crisis.*

**(New York, NY – May 11, 2020)** – MetroPlus Health Plan today announced that President and CEO, Talya Schwartz, M.D., will be among top City leaders convening on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00pm to discuss the City's populations most vulnerable to the Coronavirus pandemic in a special webinar, featuring a panel of top government experts and industry leaders. The webinar will bring together **NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Commissioner Dr. Oxiris Barbot, NYC Department for the Aging Commissioner Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez, NYC Council Member Francisco Moya, R.A.I.N. Total Care, Inc. President and CEO Anderson Torres, PhD, LCSW-R., and MetroPlusHealth's Dr. Talya Schwartz.**

New York City has been the epicenter of the coronavirus pandemic, in particular, in the minority communities, and New Yorkers are actively working to meet the needs of seniors, many of whom are unable to leave their homes; schoolchildren, who typically rely on free meals at school; and the hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers who have been left jobless as a result of the crisis. Panelists will address what New York City is doing to protect its most vulnerable populations, what services are being offered, and what more can be done.

The free event will take place on Tuesday, May 12th from 2:00pm-3:00pm via Zoom, and is the fifth installment of the City & State Webinar Series amid the pandemic. The webinar is sponsored by MetroPlusHealth and R.A.I.N. Total Care, Inc. Free registration is available at [www.cityandstateny.com/events](http://www.cityandstateny.com/events).

“At MetroPlusHealth, we have been working hard since this crisis began to care for our nearly 550,000 members, many of whom come from precisely the populations this webinar will be discussing,” said **President and CEO of MetroPlus Health Plan Talya Schwartz, MD.** “We

welcome the opportunity to share some of the challenges our members are facing – and some of the strategies we have put in place to support them during this difficult time – with other City leaders who are working hard on behalf of those who most need our help.”

###

### **About MetroPlusHealth**

Since 1985, MetroPlus Health Plan has built a reputation for providing access to affordable, quality health care to residents across New York City. A wholly-owned subsidiary of NYC Health + Hospitals, the nation’s largest public health system, MetroPlusHealth is the plan of choice for over half a million New Yorkers and has a five-star rating based on the State’s 2018 Consumer’s Guide to Medicaid and Child Health Plus Managed Care Plans in New York City. The health plan’s robust network of primary care doctors and specialists includes many independent community providers. Culturally sensitive, and fluent in more than 40 languages, MetroPlusHealth’s staff is as diverse as the great city it serves. For more information about MetroPlusHealth plans, benefits, and services, visit [www.metroplus.org](http://www.metroplus.org) and join the conversation at [facebook.com/metroplushealth](https://facebook.com/metroplushealth) and twitter [@metroplushealth](https://twitter.com/metroplushealth).

### **About City & State**

City & State is the premier media organization dedicated to covering New York’s local and state politics and policy. Now more than ever, it aims to provide in-depth, nonpartisan news coverage and valuable resources for all New Yorkers during this difficult time. It offers round the clock coverage through award-winning commentary and analysis, weekly publications, daily e-briefs, interviews and newly-established webinar series. For more information, please visit [www.cityandstateny.com](http://www.cityandstateny.com).