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NEWS RELEASE

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NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON FINAL FY25 BUDGET

Statement by Eric Linzer, HPA President and CEO

“Our industry, along with a broad range of provider and community organizations, had advocated for fully funding the Medicaid Quality Incentive (QI) Program because of the innovative programs it supports that target the factors contributing to health disparities and improve the quality of care. This includes efforts to connect high-risk pregnant women with registered nurses and community health workers, initiatives that ensure children and adults receive appropriate preventive care and screenings, and making sure home-bound individuals receive care to keep them healthy and out of the hospital.

“While the Executive’s budget had proposed eliminating funding for the QI Program, the final FY25 budget provides partial funding. This is critical to advancing the quality of care for New York’s most vulnerable residents, and we appreciate the commitment to the program despite the fiscal challenges facing the state.

“As the Commonwealth Fund’s recent *State Health Disparities Report* noted, large gaps in health outcomes across racial and ethnic groups persist. Bridging those gaps requires ongoing and sustained support. It is vital that the state ensure future investments fully fund the QI Program for health plans, providers and community organization to continue addressing the factors contributing to disparities in care and fulfill the objectives of advancing health equity in its 1115 Medicaid Waiver.”