From: Samantha LeBlanc
To: Carol Ann Desiderio

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(Is public comment allowed on this?)

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Around three years ago, a right-wing social media influencer made a post about a specific hospital spreading outright lies about their gender-affirming care program (1). Not too soon after, harassment and threats followed suit. On August 30, 2022, this hospital received a bomb threat over the phone (2). As a result, they went under lockdown – had to refuse new patient for their saftey, doctors performing surgery under even worse stress, bedside patients scared out of their minds. You know what hospital this was? It was Boston Children's Hospital – yes: a children's hospital – and if you want me to be local about it, I work there and some kids from Malden families probably go there. What caused all these incidents to come about? Transphobia. So yes, International Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31st should be celebrated. They should be recognized. They should know that despite all of the harassment, all the threats, the hurtful comments – we see you; we care about you, and we love you.

## Sources:

- (1) https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/boston-childrens-hospital-faces-bomb-threat-right-wing-harassment-camp-rcna45620
- (2) <a href="https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/pr/westfield-woman-pleads-guilty-making-hoax-bomb-threat-against-boston-childrens-hospital">https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/pr/westfield-woman-pleads-guilty-making-hoax-bomb-threat-against-boston-childrens-hospital</a>

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