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## POPE FRANCIS BRINGS MESSAGE OF HOPE TO HUNDREDS OF NYC DOCTORS AT HEALTHCARE SYMPOSIUM IN ROME

In Effort to Improve Healthcare for Immigrant Families, 600 NYC Doctors Travel to Rome to Join Pope Francis for Healthcare Summit

Dr. Tallaj: "Together, We Are Working to Help Fulfill Christ's Mission to Heal the Sick"

**New York, NY** – SOMOS – a non-profit, physician-led network of over 2,500 health care providers primarily serving immigrant communities in New York City – headed by Dr. Ramon Tallaj, Founder and Chairman of SOMOS, last week led a delegation of over 600 doctors for a healthcare summit in Rome with Pope Francis to talk about the importance of healthcare, particularly for immigrant families.

"For several years now, in New York City, you have dedicated yourselves to the assistance and healthcare of those who live on the margins of society, in situations of poverty and hunger," said **Pope Francis**. "Your daily commitment is aimed at contrasting that throwaway culture that dominates many social settings. In doing so, you are the protagonists of an overall care of the person, making available with generosity and altruism a holistic service of doctors and social-sanitary agents, who offer the benefits of preventive medicine, therapies and rehabilitation."

The symposium titled, 'Transformative Primary Care: Promoting Health and Well-Being for Displaced, Immigrant and Vulnerable Patients' was held on September 19 through 21 and focused on the need to provide healthcare for those living on the margins of society and serving patients with few resources, specifically immigrants communities across the world.

"It is an incredible honor to be received by Pope Francis to continue the dialogue of furthering our mission to increase access to healthcare for immigrant families. Together, we are working to help fulfill Christ's mission to heal the sick," said **Dr. Ramon Tallaj**, Founder and Chairman of SOMOS. "Through this symposium, we have renewed momentum to continue the charge to break down barriers to access to care and provide better healthcare outcomes for vulnerable immigrant families throughout New York City."

Full Remarks from Pope Francis

## **About SOMOS:**

SOMOS is a non-profit, physician-led network of over 2,500 health care providers serving over 700,000 Medicaid beneficiaries in New York City. Launched in 2015 by its Chairman Dr. Ramon Tallaj, SOMOS is the largest and only physician-led performance provider system participating in the New York State Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program (DSRIP). The SOMOS network includes providers delivering culturally competent care to patients in some of New York City's most vulnerable populations, particularly Latino, Asian, African-American and immigrant communities throughout the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens.