



MASSACHUSETTS  
TRANSGENDER  
POLITICAL  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 4, 2021**

## **MTPC MOURNS THE LOSS OF JAHAIRA DEALTO**



**BOSTON, MA May 4, 2021** — MTPC mourns the loss of beloved community member and dear friend, Jahaira DeAlto. Jahaira was a brilliant person, whose profound impact could be felt far and wide. Known for her kindness and generosity, she had a beautiful smile, a way with words and wit that was unmatched.

A nurturing mother to many community members and legend in Boston's ballroom scene, Jahaira was also a social justice activist, who spoke at the very first Trans Day of Remembrance and worked on the ground in Boston beginning at Boston GLASS. After moving to Pittsfield, she began her journey as a student at Berkshire Community College and as a counselor at the Elizabeth Freeman Center, setting the course towards an eventual LICSW. Her journey brought her back to Boston to continue at Simmons College as a double major in Social Work and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies and consultant for MTPC.



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Jahaira was an outspoken advocate, “galvanizing people to uplift each other through the common experience of feeling outcasted”. She leaves an indelible mark and an unforgettable legacy.

She was recently mourning the loss of her longest friend and fellow staple in the Boston community Ta’Aliyah Ayanna “Endego” Jones who died from the coronavirus in January. You can read her beautiful tribute to Ta’Aliyah [here](#).

Jahaira’s death continues to be a devastating reminder of how much violence trans people, particularly trans women of color face every day, as she is the 21<sup>st</sup> trans person (that we know of) killed in the U.S. We will follow up when more information and details of the investigation are available.

The Mass Trans Political Coalition would like to extend our deepest condolences to Jahaira’s relatives, children, chosen family and friends, the House of Balenciaga and the ballroom community, and all those she touched and loved. [Trans Resistance](#) is organizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Trans Resistance March, Vigil and Pride Fest to be held at Franklin Park on Saturday, June 12, 2021 in honor of Jahaira’s memory.

One of Jaharia’s many accomplishments and passions was her work with domestic violence survivors. If you or someone you know is experiencing partner abuse, please reach out to [The Network La Red](#) or the local DV organization in your area.

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