



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

A BI-WEEKLY LOOK AT THE BUSINESS & POLITICS OF HEALTH CARE IN NEW JERSEY



PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER **Community is Key to Addressing Health Equity**

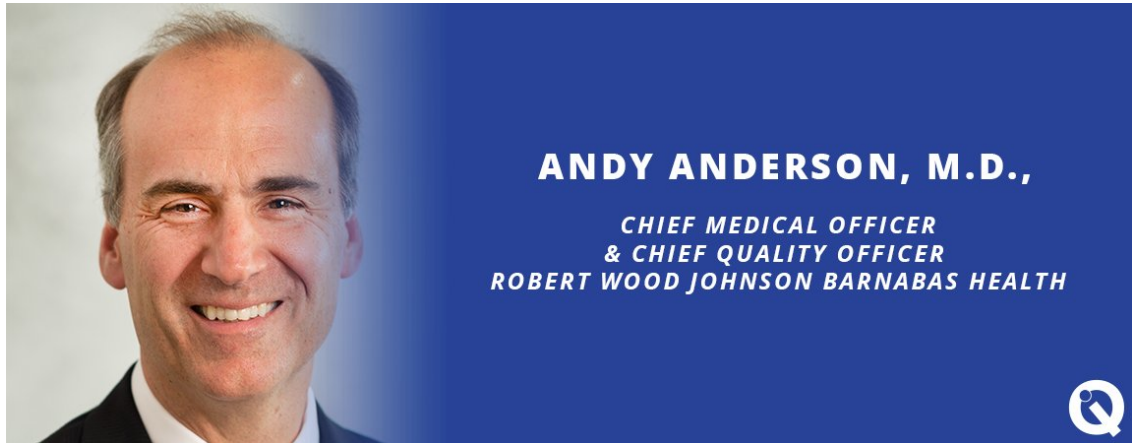
I've been thinking about community these days, and what makes a community a good place to live. There are the essentials such as clean air and water and, also important, good schools and open space. Yet community is also about the familiar — faces, places, signs, smells, and sounds. Maybe your favorite bagel shop, pizza place, old playground, or high school track. Community is the place and people who make you feel at home.

Recently I've also been thinking about health equity and find myself asking: how can a state as wealthy as New Jersey, and with so many layers of government and vital programs, still have significant disparities in health and wellness? And how do we create meaningful change in an equitable way for those who have been historically left out?

The research tells us that community is the answer. Indeed, the [CDC now funds](#) local partnerships with community organizations and trusted messengers as part of the Partnering for Vaccine Equity Program; surveys suggest that these efforts have helped address concerns about flu vaccines within Black and Latino communities. Moreover, for outreach to enroll people in programs such as Medicaid, [researchers found](#) that the most successful efforts were outreach by trained local parent mentors who assisted families in getting insurance coverage, accessing health care, and addressing social determinants of health. These parent mentors were more effective than

traditional methods of advertising and outreach (95 percent vs. 69 percent), succeeding in faster enrollment in services, higher levels of satisfaction, and improving overall child wellness...

[Read Full Story](#)



ANDY ANDERSON, M.D.,

CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER
& CHIEF QUALITY OFFICER
ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON BARNABAS HEALTH

TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Andy Anderson, M.D., is the Chief Medical Officer and Chief Quality Officer for Quality Institute member Robert Wood Johnson Barnabas Health.

Interview Sneak Peek: *Where do you think you can make the biggest impact in your new role as Chief Medical and Quality Officer for RWJBH?*

The mission of our health system is to achieve healthier communities. And to do that, I believe we must engage our patients at the individual level in their own health and health care. And we also must engage our employees and have them excited to deliver the best possible care to our patients and communities. We want our communities to have better health, and that translates into more productivity and more economic development across our state ... that translates into more wellness and happiness.

I can say that as an internist, and primary care provider, I continue to take care of patients and see those outcomes around me. This gives me insights and real-world experience with patients. And it's part of who I am as a physician — the work brings me joy and satisfaction...

[Read Full Interview](#)

**THE NJ LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES
2022 CONFERENCE**

MWC ACTIVITIES ROUNDUP



MAYORS
WELLNESS
CAMPAIGN

At the 2022 [New Jersey League of Municipalities](#) Conference, the [Mayors Wellness Campaign](#) (MWC) connected with local leaders from across the state, hosted a high-traffic booth, and held our popular panel session, *Bringing Wellness to Your Community with the Mayors Wellness Campaign*.

Overall, 100+ mayors signed the [MWC Annual Pledge of Participation for 2022](#), over 65 people attended our panel which featured different MWC mayors, and six brand-new towns joined our program. Thank you to the MWC sponsors, partners, communities, and Quality Institute members for supporting the MWC's important work.

We look forward to continuing our work with our community partners who have recommitted to improving the health and wellness of their communities.



SHARE THIS GRANT OPPORTUNITY

WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

[Planned Parenthood of Northern, Central, and Southern NJ](#)'s (PPNCSNJ) 2022 - 2023 Advocates Alliance* grant application is now open. With the support of the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) (RWJF), grants ranging from \$5,000-\$10,000 are available to not-for-profit community based organizations. Please share this opportunity with your community-based partner organizations. Learn more about this opportunity [here](#) and applications are due Friday, December 16, 2022 to AdvocatesAlliance@ppgnnj.org.

GRANT APPLICATION

APPLY FOR PPNCSNJ AA GRANT



For information on how to join, please contact Virginia Tesser at vtesser@njhcqi.org.

To learn more about our current initiatives, please visit our website at www.njhcqi.org.

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