



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

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



SCHWIMMER SCRIPT

PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER

Gathering Demonstrates Strong Determination to Continue Work on Maternity Action Plan

Our Maternity Action Plan gathering last week brought together more than 120 people, all committed to making New Jersey the safest, most equitable place to give birth and raise a child. The range of attendees enabled doulas to converse with state health officials; midwives to chat with a medical school dean; community health workers to engage with program officers at philanthropies.

People involved in all areas of maternal child health in New Jersey joined us for this day-long culmination of a year's work on the [Maternity Action Plan \(MAP\)](#), a strategic plan to support [Nurture NJ](#) implementation. Our expert speakers shared the latest on specific topics...

[Read Full Story](#)





TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

[Elevance/Wellpoint New Jersey](#) is a member of the Quality Institute's Plan Council.

Interview Sneak Peek: *Is there a program or priority that you are most excited about sharing with our readers that Wellpoint (formerly Amerigroup in New Jersey) is focused on right now?*

We are working closely with our state partners in the Murphy Administration to implement a series of innovative NJ FamilyCare program changes to integrate care and address health related social needs. We are proceeding with the federal government's approval under what is known as a Medicaid waiver program.

The New Jersey Department of Human Services remains on the cutting edge — and we're particularly excited about the housing supports the Medicaid waiver program will provide for Medicaid recipients, such as pre-tenancy services, tenancy sustaining services, home modifications or remediation services, and move-in support services. It's about keeping people in their homes and ensuring that their homes are habitable, safe places for them and their families...

[Read Full Interview](#)

Engage in Our Mental Health First Aid Offerings



If your organization provides services to pregnant people in Essex, Morris, or Union County, your employees may be eligible to receive free **Perinatal Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training**. The training is designed for Community Health Workers, doulas, nurses, and others who support pregnant people. *The Quality Institute is thankful to the [Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey](#) for its generous support of this work.*

We are also convening a small workgroup to develop an additional maternity-specific case study for use in Perinatal MHFA nationally. If you are interested in serving on this workgroup or know organizations or community health workers interested in MHFA training, contact our Director of Quality, Adelisa Perez-Hudgins, at aperez@njhcqi.org.

With support from [The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey](#), our [Mayors Wellness Campaign](#) continues to provide **free MHFA trainings** to people who work with youth and adults in the community. This training is especially promoted to law enforcement, school employees, municipal employees, and those serving the public. Our next **Youth MHFA Training** is December 18. Our 2025 training dates will be announced soon. For more information, reach out to Katie Bisaha, KBisaha@njhcqi.org.

[Register for Youth or Adult MHFA Training](#)



Quality Institute members are invited to our in-person engagement event in Southern New Jersey at Virtua Health Corporate Office, [303 Lippincott Drive, Marlton, NJ](#).

Attend this event to:

- Network with other Quality Institute members and invited guests over breakfast.
- Meet local leaders and health care decision-makers.
- Get updates on health policy, quality improvement, and community health from [Quality Institute staff](#).

These events are for members and invited guests only.

[Register Now](#)

NEW MEMBER



Chartered in 1972, [Thomas Edison State University](#) is one of New Jersey's senior public institutions of higher learning. The University offers associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs in more than 100 areas of study.



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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