



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

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



COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSOCIATE, KATIE BISAHA At 'League' Conference, Mayors Wellness Campaign Brings Towns Together

As one of the largest municipal gatherings in the nation, the [New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference](#) offers a unique opportunity for face-to-face networking and exploring developments in New Jersey's local government. Each year, the Quality Institute team looks forward to convening mayors and community leaders for our panel, "Bringing Wellness to Your Community," as part of our [Mayors Wellness Campaign](#) (MWC) initiative.

This year, our panel drew a full room of health officials, mayors, and community leaders eager to hear from mayors representing a diverse range of towns across the state. Each MWC is unique—varying in size, demographics, and health priorities. We invited mayors leading successful campaigns to share their insights and experiences, hoping to inspire leaders who may feel hesitant to sign the pledge or are looking for new ideas to strengthen their own. Our panelists covered a range of important topics...

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MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN SPONSORS**

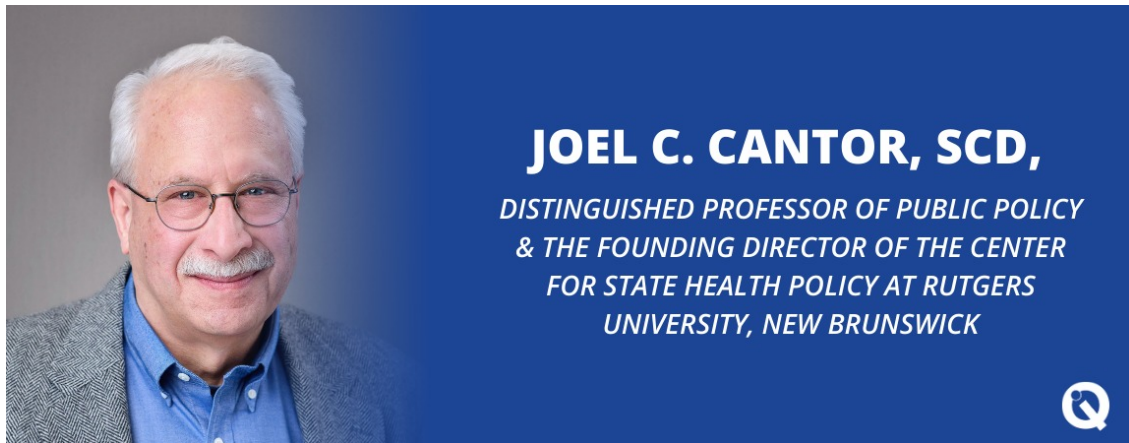
NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE
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CRYSTAL

PLATINUM

GOLD

MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN,



TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

[The Center for State Health Policy](#), a member of the Quality Institute’s Education Council, is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Interview Sneak Peek: *The Center works to provide rigorous research and to inform and support sound health care policy in New Jersey and around the nation. Can you describe the one area where the Center has the greatest impact on policy in New Jersey?*

I feel like you’re asking me to pick which of my children are loved most. But, ok, I’ll give one example. In the early days of the center, we did a series of studies about the regulation and operations of the New Jersey individual health insurance market, which at the time was really failing. Our work was cited by the U.S. Solicitor General in Supreme Court arguments defending the Affordable Care Act. ... I knew our work had impact when I walked into a meeting with a senior policy official from the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance and our technical report was dogeared and riddled with paperclips. That’s my happy place ... knowing that policy makers use our research to support evidence-based decision making. In this case, changes in

regulations stabilized a market that was really faltering. This was before the Affordable Care Act...

[Read Full Interview](#)

YOUTH MHFA TRAINING

Wednesday, December 18



With support from [The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey](#), our [Mayors Wellness Campaign](#) continues to provide **free Mental Health First Aid trainings (MHFA)** to people who work with **youth and adults** in the community.

This training may be especially valuable to law enforcement, school employees, municipal employees, and those serving the public.

The 2025 training dates will be announced soon. For more information, reach out to Katie Bisaha at KBisaha@njhcqi.org.

[Register Now](#)

LINDA SCHWIMMER JOINS PANEL OF HEALTH CARE LEADERS

at the Annual Martha A Lansing Lectureship at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Our President & CEO, [Linda Schwimmer](#), joined a panel which included thought leaders from [our membership](#):

- Amy Murtha, MD, Dean of Rutgers Medical School
- Jamie Reedy, MD, MPH, Horizon BCBSNJ, SVP
- Susan Reinhard, PhD, MSN, BSN, RJWBH board chair
- Ann Greiner, CEO, Primary Care Collaborative

The topic was *Achieving Health Care Quality: Stakeholder Perspectives*. The discussion centered on how the United States could improve after 20 years of low rankings on the Commonwealth Foundation's comparison of health care systems in economically advanced nations.

The panelists agreed that investing more and providing greater support for primary care should be a first step. Other suggestions included increased public and private investment in medical and other health sector education, ensuring that equity is part of quality improvement, and increasing transparency in quality and pricing.

[Watch Full Event](#)

LEAPFROG GROUP

2024 Safety Grades Released



>> Read our [press release](#) for details on how New Jersey hospitals performed this round.



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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