MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, the health care system has experienced rapid change and upheaval across the nation including New Jersey. The past year was a time of great uncertainty, as we all wondered which of the reforms would continue and in what form. It was a year that reminded us all that health care is, and always will be, a personal and local issue. Different parts of the country have different cultural expectations and norms. Disruptive change is difficult to impose nationally – especially when it comes to health care issues. The upheaval and debates reminded me of what I appreciate about living in New Jersey, a state with a long history of ensuring that one’s health status will not prevent you from getting coverage. It also reinforced my joy in working with all of you, at the state policy-making level, to make health care more accessible and affordable to the residents of the Garden State.

This Impact Report looks back at the past year and our accomplishments working with you, our members and funders. It also peeks forward at what’s underway in our next fiscal year and how we see our efforts advancing to improve quality in health care delivery and tackle costs.

From our delivery system workgroups, to our member conferences and quality improvement breakfasts, your contributions to our work and your collective voice is vital to everything we do. Thank you for sharing your expertise and perspective as we work together to make health care in New Jersey safer, person centered, and more affordable.

You are the Quality Institute.

With an incoming Governor in early 2018 and ongoing uncertainty, as we all wondered which of the reforms would continue and in what form, it is important to remember that the role of the Quality Institute is all the more critical.

With warm appreciation,

Linda J. Schmimmer, JD

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President & CEO, New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute

SPOTLIGHTS

MEDICAID 2.0

A Blueprint for the Future

With generous funding from The Nicholson Foundation, the Quality Institute launched the Medicaid 2.0 Project to identify existing challenges and provide solutions to improve the way the State delivers and pays for care through Medicaid. Beginning in early 2016, we met with over 100 health care stakeholders, including providers, health plan executives, hospital leaders, government officials, union representatives, academics, and advocacy groups. We conducted focus groups with beneficiaries, concentrating on pregnant women and seniors, to obtain feedback on how well the system was working for them. We then consulted with innovators in other states and hosted two Medicaid summits to gather additional insights. This exhaustive research formed the basis in developing five Transformation Teams comprised of more than 50 high level health care stakeholders to dive more deeply into the priority areas and propose actionable solutions to improve the Medicaid program. Our inclusive and focused approach culminated in the March 6, 2017 release of the Medicaid 2.0 Blueprint for the Future, a landmark plan to redesign and modernize New Jersey’s Medicaid program. The Blueprint highlighted 24 consensus-based recommendations to improve the quality, and reduce the cost of the Medicaid program. The Blueprint received local and national attention. Because of our unique collaborative process, the recommendations have broad support. With additional funding from The Nicholson Foundation, the Quality Institute is now working to implement the recommendations.

Mayor’s Wellness Campaign

Celebrating its 10th Anniversary

Mayors Wellness Campaign

Put your community in motion

Created 10 years ago in collaboration with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign (MWC) was formed in response to an Institute of Medicine report on rising rates of obesity. The initial theme, “Putting Our Community in Motion,” inspired mayors, recognized by the Quality Institute as local champions of change, to increase opportunities for New Jersey residents to participate in daily physical activity. Today almost 70 percent of New Jersey’s municipalities (387) have joined the MWC. The MWC provides local leaders with tools to champion healthy and active living, with the goal of improving the overall health of their communities. Twenty-one towns in the last decade have received the MWC’s prestigious Healthy Town designation for their commitment to improving wellness. MWC programming has expanded over the years to include health promoting activities geared to everyone from children to seniors, and to support higher need communities through our Healthy Communities create Healthy Citizens project, generously funded by the United Health Foundation. In addition, through funding from the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, the MWC launched an initiative called “Conversation of Your Life.” which provides mayors with straightforward tools to develop and promote a community conversation around end-of-life care planning in a culturally sensitive and accessible way.

Mission Statement: To undertake initiatives that promote system changes that ensure quality, safety, accountability, and cost containment are all closely linked to the delivery of health care in New Jersey.
QUALITY INSTITUTE ROLE AND IMPACT

As a non-partisan, multi-stakeholder convener, the Quality Institute has accomplished the following over the past year:

**THOUGHT LEADER**

- Developed 24 consensus-based recommendations for improving NJ Medicaid, captured in our Medicaid 2.0 Blueprint for the Future.
- Provided common sense prescriptions for health care’s ailments via Linda Schwimmer’s biweekly blog, SchwimmerScript.
- Led the 2016 Annual Innovation Showcase: Using Technology to Transform the Practice of Medicine with the New Jersey Innovation Institute, bringing together over 250 providers, health care policy experts and technology vendors for the first time.
- Hosted two Quarterly Quality Breakfasts to share hospital safety best practices and alternative pain management methods to opioids and surgery.

**PROBLEM SOLVER**

- Selected 31 population health metrics to support alignment across payment and quality improvement programs as part of New Jersey’s State Innovation Model design award.
- Issued recommendations to improve Medicaid provider network directories in partnership with the New Jersey Association for Health Plans.
- Connected nearly 600 people in Jersey City, Mercer County and Cumberland County to needed social services by supporting three custom Aunt Bertha social service websites.
- Revamped 30 tools in the MWC toolkit, enabling mayors in 387 municipalities to increase and enhance their health and wellness programming.

**EDUCATOR**

- Promoted conversations around end-of-life care planning to nearly 4,000 individuals through our expanded Conversation of Your Life program.
- Educated over 500 NJII Garden Practice Transformation Network providers and Quality Institute members on population health and clinical quality improvement.
- Informed policy debates around the use of telemedicine and urgent care, and the use of government funding to support Planned Parenthood services for low income women by conducting ongoing statewide polls with the Rutgers Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling.
- Graduated over 80 pharmaceutical executives through our Health Care Policy 360 program.

**QUALITY INSTITUTE BY THE NUMBERS**

- #17 Linda Schwimmer was listed #17 on the NJBIZ Power 50 Health Care List.
- CME-accredited Garden Practice Transformation Network webinars.
- Graduated over 80 pharmaceutical executives through our Health Care Policy 360 program.
- 130 organizations engaged in creating the Medicaid 2.0 Blueprint.
- Over 80 press hits.
“Because of the Quality Institute’s persistence and leadership, New Jersey hospitals are national leaders in quality and safety transparency.”
Leah Binder, President and CEO, The Leapfrog Group

“The Quality Institute is a leader of state-based innovation and the organization’s work, particularly in Medicaid, is widely reviewed and respected at the federal level.”
Elizabeth Mitchell, President and CEO, Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement

“I’m proud to be the spokesperson for the Quality Institute’s Mayors Wellness Campaign which successfully encourages all communities to eat better and be active.”
Joetta Clark Diggs, Four-Time Olympic athlete

A Special Thanks to Our Grant Funders:
- The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey - MWC’s Conversation of Your Life
- The New Jersey Innovation Institute - QI Collaborative’s Practice Transformation work
- The Nicholson Foundation - Medicaid 2.0
- The United Health Foundation - MWC’s Healthy Communities create Healthy Citizens project

Total Revenue

- 6% Educational Programs
- 38% Membership Contributions
- 56% Grants

Total Expenses

- 82% Program Costs
- 18% Operations

FINANCIALS AND GROWTH

The Quality Institute leverages the knowledge and expertise of its members by actively engaging with national partners on quality and safety. Through these organizations, we can stay at the forefront of emerging health issues and make the connections we need with other thought-leaders in health care delivery, quality improvement, and payment reform.

THE LEAFROG GROUP
Linda Schwimmer serves as a board member of The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The Quality Institute is the Regional Leader for The Leapfrog Group in New Jersey.

nrhi
Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement

The Quality Institute is a member of the Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI), a network of multi-stakeholder collaboratives dedicated to the Triple Aim. The Quality Institute serves as the Regional Health Improvement Collaborative (RHIC) for New Jersey and Linda Schwimmer serves on the NRHI Board of Directors.

QI BEYOND NJ

Expanding the Conversation of Your Life program to cover eight New Jersey counties (Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset).

Implementing recommendations from the Blueprint with a focus on improving mother and child care, making Medicaid cost and utilization data available to the public, and developing a patient centered medical home for children with complex medical needs.

Coordinating efforts to decrease unnecessary C-sections and improve maternal and child outcomes.

Increasing transparency and quality in nonhospital settings of care.

Partnering with Catalyst for Payment Reform to develop a NJ Payment Reform Scorecard.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018

New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute

Membership

Leadership Council
Continuum Health Alliance
Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling at Rutgers University
Horizon BlueCross BlueShield of NJ
Hospital Alliance of New Jersey
Medical Society of New Jersey
NJ Innovation Institute
NJ Manufacturers Insurance Company
NJ State Chamber of Commerce
NJ State League of Municipalities
NJ State Nurses Association
Planned Parenthood of Northern, Central & Southern NJ
RWJBarnabas Health
VITAS Innovative Hospice Care

Association Council
American Physical Therapy Association of New Jersey
Employers Association of New Jersey
Health Care Association of New Jersey
New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians
New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses
NJ Association for Justice
NJ Association of Community Providers
NJ Association of Health Plans
NJ Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies
NJ Association of Nurse Anesthetists
NJ Business & Industry Association
NJ Education Association
NJ Family Planning League
State and Local Government Benefits Association

ACO Council
Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers
Healthy Greater Newark ACO
Trenton Health Team

Consumer Council
AARP of New Jersey
American Cancer Society
American Heart Association
March of Dimes
Medina Community Clinic
Mental Health Association in NJ
NJ YMCA State Alliance
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Seton Services, LLC
The Nicholson Foundation

Education Council
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Rutgers University School of Nursing

Plan Council
Aetna
AmeriGroup
AmeriHealth New Jersey
Community Care Behavioral Health
UnitedHealth Employer and Individual WellCare

Professional & Technology Council
Applied Medical Software
EMET Realty
Fox Rothschild LLP
JR Market Strategies, LLC
MD Advantage
Teladoc
Venn Health Partners
ZeOmega

Provider Council
AtlantiCare Health Solutions
Cancer Treatment Centers of America
Capital Health System
CarePlus NJ

Purchaser Council
Health Professionals & Allied Employees
Northeast Carpenters Funds
Tabula Rasa Healthcare
Unite Here Health
USI Insurance Services, LLC

Wellness Council
Astellas Pharma US
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Pfizer
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As of October 1, 2017