

[View this email in your browser](#)



What's Included In This Edition:

Schwimmer Script - Tracking the Human Toll of Federal Health Policy Changes in New Jersey

Take Five Interview - Amy Fisher, Program Director at Rutgers Project ECHO

Register for our Maternity Action Plan (MAP) Virtual Work Session on 7/14

Welcome, New Member - Northeast Business Group on Health



Tracking the Human Toll of Federal Health Policy Changes in New Jersey

Leading the Quality Institute means working on improving health care safety, quality, and affordability for everyone. Our work includes tracking policies that either help or harm that mission and working with you, our members, to make things better. With federal assaults on public health, including attacks on evidence-based science and medicine, cuts to insurance subsidies that caused people to lose coverage, and new barriers to Medicaid enrollment, it is easy to get discouraged these days.

For me — and I know for many of you — I get the most satisfaction from my job when I am working to improve things. One way we can do this is to track how these federal changes are harming people across New Jersey. We can then use the compiled benchmarks to show the amount of harm caused and to make the case for improvement and reinvestment.

Our **wide-ranging H.R.1 report** calls for such action and outlines data that could be collected. We are calling this tool the NJ Health Outcomes Tracker or “NJ HOT Spots.” We invite you to join us in this effort and make your own suggestions of what metrics should be included in the tracker. Ultimately, the tracker is for the state to own and run, but let’s get this launched together to support the need to see data and use it for improving health.

For now, we are focusing on three critical areas: public health and immunization data; Medicaid enrollment including Cover All Kids data; and ACA enrollment data. We further break down these categories by different populations and types of care that are under greatest attack. Given the scope of the federal actions, the seriousness of the impending harm to NJ residents, and the urgency needed in our response, we recommend that NJ HOT Spots should be updated and published quarterly.

We look forward to seeing how others can help visualize the data and use it along with qualitative data to capture personal experiences and needs and to design and implement programs that improve areas of concern.

Health care is essential and the repercussions of recent federal action will be too great to ignore. We will need clear data to understand where we were before the harmful changes and where the greatest needs lie. We can use that concrete information to advocate for where we need to improve and to outline the road back to a healthier state. With this tracking tool in place, New Jersey will be better positioned to understand the true toll of the federal attacks on health care and how we can best respond.

Take a look at our [initial proposed version of NJ HOT Spots](#).

TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Amy Fisher
Program Director, Rutgers Project ECHO



Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

[Rutgers Project ECHO](#) is a member of the [Quality Institute's Education Council](#), Institutes of Higher Learning.

Interview Sneak Peek: *Project ECHO expands access to specialty knowledge to frontline health care providers in New Jersey. How has the program evolved to address New Jersey's most pressing health needs?*

Since our inception, Rutgers Project ECHO has grown to reach all 21 New Jersey counties. We've built strong statewide collaborations and partnerships with community-based organizations, helping us better understand the real-world barriers providers and patients face on the front lines.

For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, we rapidly launched a Nursing Home ECHO to share best practices and helping nursing homes stay aligned with evolving guidance. We continue to respond to urgent public health priorities — from the overdose crisis to the unacceptable disparities in maternal morbidity and mortality across the state. We aim to create a space where participants learn from one another and where programs address social determinants of health — not just identify them...

[Read Full Interview](#)

MATERNITY ACTION PLAN

DATA IN PRACTICE: TURNING MATERNAL HEALTH INSIGHT INTO ACTION



TUESDAY, 7/14 FROM 12-2 PM



VIRTUAL EVENT, ZOOM



Please join us for a [Maternity Action Plan \(MAP\)](#) virtual work session, "[Data in Practice: Turning Maternal Health Insight into Action](#)," on **Tuesday, July 14, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.** Attendees will learn how to identify and interpret accessible maternal health data sets to better understand community needs.

Featuring speakers:

- [Mehnaz Mustafa, MPH, MSc](#), Chief Data Officer & Assistant Commissioner, Division of Health Data and Analytics, [New Jersey Department of Health](#)
- [Fay Cobb Payton, PhD, MBA](#), Executive Director, [Institute for Data, Research & Innovation Science \(IDRIS\)](#), Rutgers University — Newark

More details to come.

[Register Now](#)

NEW MEMBER



WELCOME

The [Northeast Business Group on Health \(NEBGH\)](#) is a nonprofit, employer-led coalition committed to driving healthcare value and improving outcomes for employees and their families. NEBGH's members collectively cover almost 10 million lives in the U.S. and more than 15.5 million globally.



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.

Copyright 2025* * | NJHCQI, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
P.O. Box 2246, Princeton, New Jersey 08543

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).