



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

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



PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER **Small Employer Health Insurance Needs Fixing**

As a small employer, I understand the importance of providing good health insurance to my employees. This is an important benefit that the Quality Institute wants to offer and is also essential to the health of our employees and their families. Until our country provides universal coverage or another method to pay for health care, the majority of employers will want to make sure that their employees have access to care. New Jersey has a strong history of small employers providing insurance benefits to their employees even though there is no mandate to do so. Unfortunately, New Jersey's small employer market is in danger – as steep declines in enrollment and rising premiums create a dangerous spiral. Action must be taken to ensure that small businesses and their employees have access to affordable insurance coverage and quality health care services.

That is why the Quality Institute just released a white paper laying out the market's background and setting out a [comprehensive package](#) of short and long term recommendations to support affordable health care coverage for small group employers and their employees.

[Read Full Story](#)



ERIKA KERBER, ESQ.

**ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT
COMMUNITY HEALTH LAW PROJECT (CHLP)**



TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

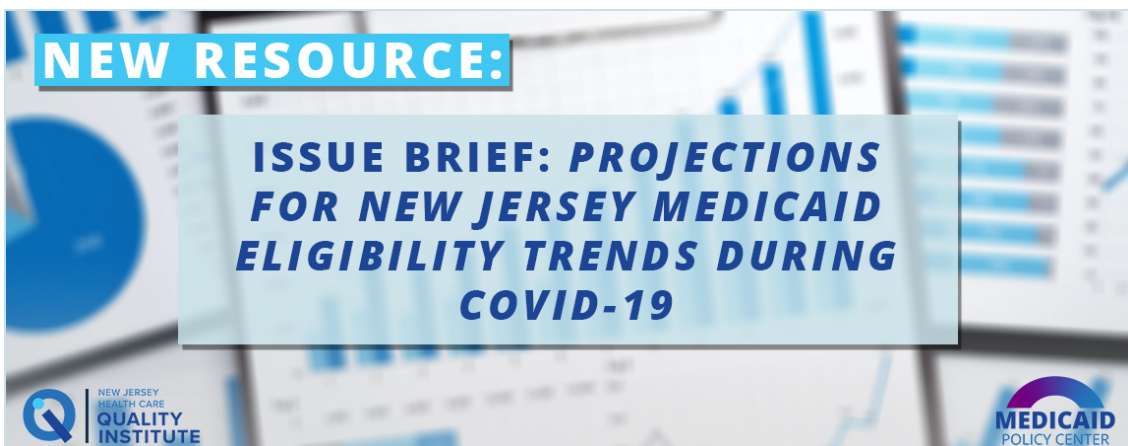
Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Erika Kerber, Esq., Associate Executive Director at [Community Health Law Project](#) (CHLP).

Interview Sneak Peek: *Tell us about the “Medical-Legal Partnership” model and how it works.*

A medical-legal partnership is where we partner with health care providers by meeting with patients on-site at the health care facility and we screen them for any legal issues that may be impeding their health.

[Read Full Interview](#)



In our latest release, the Medicaid Policy Center (MPC) examines three scenarios that policy makers can use to assess the Coronavirus pandemic's potential effect on Medicaid enrollment over the next twelve to eighteen months. This issue brief also provides an estimate of the associated cost growth for the July 2020-June 2021 period.

As Congress considers another phase of economic stimulus, we recommend an extension to the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program. Battling on two fronts, states are trying to protect their residents from this ongoing pandemic, as well as struggling to balance their budgets. Extending unemployment benefits through December 2020 would significantly limit increases in Medicaid enrollment through the end of 2020.

[Read & Download Issue Brief](#)

[Read Matt D'Oria's Op-Ed on NJSpotlight.com](#)

The Quality Institute's Medicaid work is supported by [The Nicholson Foundation](#).

QUALITY CORNER



The Leapfrog Group and Quality Institute member, AARP, are calling on stakeholders and consumers to join them in supporting the expansion of mandatory infection reporting. They are proposing that a wider variety of facility types (ASCs, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, dialysis centers, specialty hospitals, etc.) be required to nationally report key health care acquired infection data, including COVID-19 data, to the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) and for rates of infection to be publicly reported by facility.

We are proud to have signed on to this letter in support of these vital and essential changes and encourage you, *all of our member organizations*, to do the same. Help us bring these crucial changes to fruition. The sign-on deadline is July 15th.

[Read the Full Letter](#)

[Add Your Signature - Sign On to the Letter](#)

RUTGERS CSHP HEALTH POLICY FORUM – WEBINAR JULY 16TH

Join our CEO, Linda Schwimmer, and other member-experts to discuss NJ Small Employer Health Insurance

Join [Rutgers Center for State Health Policy](#) (CSHP) for the launch of their virtual policy forum series, which examines the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on health policy in New Jersey. We are thrilled to have our President & CEO, [Linda Schwimmer](#), as a panelist on the first virtual forum, which is scheduled for **Thursday, July 16th, 2020 from 10:00am-11:30am**. The first forum will concentrate on the current state of the NJ Small Employer Health Insurance market and the pandemic's potentially devastating impact on small employers and their ability to provide insurance coverage to their employees.

[Register Now](#)



HealthySteps

[HealthySteps](#), a program of Zero-to-Three, is an evidence-based, team-based pediatric primary care model that promotes the health, well-being and school readiness of babies and toddlers.

HealthySteps is expanding to New Jersey and is currently in more than 160 sites, across 20+ states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.



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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