



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

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



PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER **Three Key Questions to Ask This Budget Season**

Gov. Murphy's budget, now before the state legislature, includes initiatives to create a more resilient, equitable, and healthier state. The Quality Institute supports the goals of the governor's budget. We have unprecedented opportunities now, especially with an expected \$9 billion coming to state and local governments through the federal American Rescue Plan. We must not squander this moment by failing to adequately support the government infrastructure needed to accomplish the vision we set out to achieve.

As the budget hearing process begins, I urge our state legislators and elected officials to engage in a budget process that ultimately will improve the ability of state officials to implement new and existing initiatives. As someone who has worked in both the state legislature and as a state regulator, I have seen valuable new laws fail in the real world because state departments do not possess the resources to implement them. These systemic shortcomings in our state government transcend political parties and administrations.

In the coming weeks, State legislators will hold public budget hearings and ask questions of leadership from each state agency. I'm suggesting three foundational questions to ask at each hearing...

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NICHOLAS BLANCK, CRNA MSN, APN-ANESTHESIA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS,
NJ ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS



TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Nicholas Blanck, CRNA MSN, APN-Anesthesia, is the Executive Director of Legislative Affairs for the [New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists](#), a member of the Quality Institute's Association Council.

Interview Sneak Peek: *How did the COVID-19 Pandemic change things for Nurse Anesthetists in New Jersey?*

When we talk about regulations in nurse anesthesia practice post pandemic, we have to talk about Governor Murphy's Executive Order Number 112. He took decisive action to remove this joint protocol, which is a more than 12-year-old concept that an advanced practice nurse in anesthesia must work in the presence of a physician anesthesiologist. Murphy removed that regulation and optimized the nurse anesthesia workforce to be able to move into the most needed areas of health care based on our skill set and our education.

[Read Full Interview](#)



MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN®

A green graphic with white text and a laptop image. The text reads 'WEBINAR TRAINING MWC SOCIAL ISOLATION TOOLKIT'. The laptop screen shows several documents related to the toolkit. At the bottom left are the logos for the Mayors Wellness Campaign and the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute.

WEBINAR TRAINING
MWC SOCIAL ISOLATION TOOLKIT

NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

The [Mayors Wellness Campaign](#) (MWC) is excited to announce the launch of the *Reducing Social Isolation Toolkit*. The MWC created this important resource after hearing that the social isolation of older adults in New Jersey communities was a top concern of local leaders. Community leaders, we invite you to our webinar training on this toolkit, which will walk you through how to implement the

Webinar Training on MWC Social Isolation Toolkit

This toolkit serves as a guide for communities to create a volunteer-based program to address the issue of social isolation and to connect people at the local level. The toolkit is currently being piloted in Passaic County and is also available to all municipalities across the state. In the toolkit you will find:

- Step-by-step instructions on how to recruit both older adult program participants and volunteers.
- Strategies for preparing program participants and training volunteers, increasing the likelihood for a successful experience.
- Tools for program participants, such as a “Conversation Starter” guide and “Resource List” to prepare them for their interactions and assist with getting older adults connected to other services they may need.
- Guidance for communities on how best to evaluate the impact of the program.

View the Reducing Social Isolation Toolkit



The Reducing Social Isolation Toolkit was generously supported by [Amerigroup](#).

NEW MEMBER



Novo Nordisk

For 97 years, [Novo Nordisk](#), a global leader in diabetes care, has been changing diabetes. The company makes innovative medicines to help people with diabetes manage their disease, believes that people should have access to care and treatment options, and offers support programs for patients. Novo Nordisk’s ultimate goal is to defeat diabetes through prevention, detection and better management, and empower people with diabetes to live longer, healthier lives. The company has built its business on the conviction that the formula for lasting success is to stay focused, think long-term, and do business in a financially, socially and environmentally responsible way.

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