## **Quality Institute Supplier Diversity Policy**

## Goal

The goal of The New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute's (QI) Supplier Diversity policy is to promote and increase business opportunities for minority, women, LGBTQ+ and veteran-owned and/or small business enterprises by fostering an inclusive procurement process that provides maximum opportunity for small and diverse businesses to participate as partners and suppliers of goods and services. By utilizing and partnering with small and diverse companies, QI will continue to build a supplier base that contributes to our competitive advantage.

In addition to small businesses, QI is interested in engaging with businesses that fall into one or more of the following diversity categories:

- Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB)
- Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE)
- Woman-owned Business Enterprises (WBE)
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender-owned Business Enterprises (LGBTBE)
- Disability-owned Business Enterprises
- Historically Underutilized Business (HUB Zone)
- Veteran-owned Businesses (VBE)
- Service-disabled Veteran-owned Businesses (SDVBE)

These businesses must be at least 51% owned, operated, and controlled by persons who fit into one of these categories. MBE, WBE, LGBTBE and SDVBE businesses must be certified as such by an independent certification agency. Owners of businesses that fall into the categories must be willing to sign a self-classification affidavit.

We aim to include companies that are owned and operated by:

- African Americans
- Asian/Pacific Islanders
- Hispanic Americans
- Native Americans

## **Our Supplier Diversity efforts include:**

- Providing information on our website about how to participate in QI procurement opportunities to ensure that small and diverse businesses know how to engage in the process.
- Identifying services/products that are well represented by small and diverse businesses and proactively reach out to qualified vendors when sourcing opportunities are available

Small and diverse businesses interested in doing business with the Quality Institute should contact us at <u>info@njhcqi.org</u>. Should an opportunity arise for which you are qualified, we will reach out to you directly.