

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



# PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER Maternity Action Plan (MAP) Provides 4-Step Path Forward

For more than a year, we have worked with many of our Quality Institute <u>members</u> and community partners from around New Jersey to create the <u>Maternity Action</u> <u>Plan (MAP)</u>, which we just released. The MAP outlines a path forward to turn the vision of <u>Nurture NJ</u> into reality. The goal is to make New Jersey the safest and most equitable place to deliver and raise a baby.

The MAP builds sustainable policy change, and addresses racial inequities through specific, actionable steps. I believe the MAP will be essential to all our members — from insurers and providers to community leaders and health systems.

I urge you all to read and share the MAP. We also want mayors, elected officials, and government leaders to read the recommendations. Tremendous progress has already occurred through Nurture NJ, and the MAP aims to build on those accomplishments and accelerate the pace of change. The four key areas of focus are:

- Expand and diversify the perinatal workforce.
- Advance data collection and use and include patient-reported experiences to improve quality and equity.
- Create a holistic payment system that increases access to comprehensive highquality maternal health services, including behavioral health services.
- Strengthen economic and social supports for people before, during, and after pregnancy...

**Read Full Story** 



# TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Caroline Davidson, Vice President of State Engagement for Shatterproof, oversees engagement in states implementing <u>Shatterproof's</u> ATLAS® quality measurement system for addiction treatment facilities. Shatterproof is a member of the Quality Institute's Consumer Council.

**Interview Sneak Peek:** How can payers, providers, and people with addictions use the ATLAS tool?

The **ATLAS website** has two parts. The first is the public-facing side of the website, which is free. Anyone can go there and search for and compare treatment facilities. There is an assessment based on criteria from the American Society for Addiction Medicine — the gold standard to understand what the appropriate level of care is for you or a loved one. Then you can search for and compare facilities based on quality and what we know to be evidence-based best practices. We answer a lot of questions about different levels of care. We also provide information on insurance coverage, including Medicaid or Medicare, and information about sliding scales for those who self-pay.

We also have password-protected portals for providers who submitted data to ATLAS. Once the portals are live, providers can go in and look at how they compare to their peers across their state in terms of quality. The goal is not just for us to say to patients, "here are good providers," but also to help providers understand where they can improve. And we also do a free technical assistance series, so providers can learn how to leverage the data to improve services at their facility...

**Read Full Interview** 



New Jersey's maternal health crisis is particularly devastating for Black women, who experience maternal mortality and morbidity at seven times higher rates than their white counterparts. The <u>Quality Institute</u>, in partnership with many partners and advocates, created the <u>Maternity Action Plan (MAP)</u> to provide a directional path forward in four critical ways to address New Jersey's maternal health crisis.

**View MAP Facebook Live events** <u>here</u>; hosted by Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern NJ (Facebook: @partnership\_mc.)

- July 13: Part 1 Diversifying the Healthcare Workforce
- July 14: Part 2 The Role of Data in Improving Maternal Mortality Rates
- July 20: Part 3 Holistic Care Saves Lives
- July 21: Part 4 Empowering Communities



Join us on Wednesday, July 20 at 12pm to learn strategies communities can use to address food security, access to open and safe space, and more <u>here</u>.

### Learn in this webinar:

- What social determinants of health are,
- How they affect your community, and
- How to utilize our new tools to improve your community's overall health.

## **Register for MWC SDoH Virtual Event**



Quality Institute members and guests: We invite you to celebrate our 25th Anniversary from **5-7:30pm on Thursday, September 15th at the Trenton Country Club**!

#### About This Event:

Please join us for drinks, light hors d'oeuvres, and conversation as we celebrate the

25th anniversary of the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute. We look forward to seeing our members and invited guests to recognize our accomplishments and celebrate our Champions of Quality.

### **Champions of Quality Honorees:**

- Leah Binder, President and CEO, The Leapfrog Group
- **David Knowlton**, Founder and former President and CEO, New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
- Judith Persichilli, R.N., B.S.N., M.A, Commissioner, NJ Department of Health, Founder and former Vice Chair of the Board, New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
- Jennifer Velez, Esq., SVP and General Counsel, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ, Former Commissioner, NJ Department of Human Services
- Senator Joseph Vitale, New Jersey Legislature

\*This event is for Quality Institute members and invited guests only.

Register for 25th Anniversary Event



For information on how to join, please contact Virginia Tesser at <u>vtesser@njhcqi.org</u>.

To learn more about our current initiatives, please visit our website at <u>www.njhcqi.org</u>. *Copyright 2022\* \**|*NJHCQI, All rights reserved*.

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