



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE **QUALITY INSTITUTE**

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



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LSW**
**DIRECTOR OF
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SCHWIMMER SCRIPT

Unlocking Local Data to Improve Community Health

This year, more than 40 New Jersey cities and towns submitted “Healthy Town” applications to the Mayors Wellness Campaign (MWC), a program run by the Quality Institute in partnership with the NJ League of Municipalities. In their applications, the towns shared the creative ways they are promoting health and wellness — such as community farms, food pantries, bike-sharing programs, and yoga classes in parks and on beaches. Some towns created mental health initiatives, diabetes education programs, health fairs and many other impactful programs. The response for the Healthy Town application was so strong this year that we will increase the number of Healthy Town designations we award.

After years of running the MWC, I know what makes a successful program: support from the mayor, community partnerships with health experts, and the use of data to drive programs. The MWC supports towns that want to understand their local data. Yesterday, in a [webinar](#), “[Unlocking the Power of Local Health Data](#),” we explored how towns can leverage tools such as the [City Health Dashboard](#). In the webinar, Deputy Mayor Eman El-Badawi shared Cranbury Township’s experience using the platform to better understand the town’s demographic changes, disease rates, and community needs. You can view the webinar [here](#). City Health is adding smaller communities (3,000 residents) to its Dashboard. I encourage you to check out the Dashboard to explore the measures currently available and consider how such data could assist your community or organization to better serve your residents, patients,

or clients...

[Read Full Story](#)



VICTOR MURRAY,

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING,
THE CAMDEN COALITION

TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Victor Murray is Senior Director of Community Engagement and Capacity Building for the [Camden Coalition](#), a Regional Health Hub and a member of the [Quality Institute's ACO Council](#).

Interview Sneak Peek: *How does being a Regional Health Hub help advance your work?*

In 2020, Gov. Murphy created four regional health hubs: the [Camden Coalition](#), [Trenton Health Team](#), [Greater Newark Healthcare Coalition](#), and the [Health Coalition of Passaic County](#). The goal of these hubs is to support the State's health priorities by providing data infrastructure and analysis, supporting care management, and convening community stakeholders. An example has been during the COVID-19 pandemic as we support testing and vaccination efforts. Going forward we will focus on Medicaid redetermination. Congress enacted the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which kept people continuously enrolled with Medicaid during the pandemic. As that ends, people will lose coverage. Perhaps millions nationwide. An issue for us will be to reenroll those who have been disenrolled, ensuring people can access the health services and treatment they need...

[Read Full Interview](#)

MATERNITY ACTION PLAN (MAP) IN-PERSON CONVENING



Last chance to register for our in-person Maternity Action Plan (“MAP”) Convening to be held on Friday, March 3rd. If you attended one of the four [work sessions](#) (you can catch up and watch the sessions on [YouTube](#)), please join us. This in-person convening is the culmination of the four MAP work sessions and **is for those who are serious about improving Birth Equity in New Jersey.**

Date: Friday, March 3

Time: 8am - 3pm

Location: [Princeton Marriott at Forrestal](#)

[Register for MAP Work Session & Convening](#)

Maternity Action Plan (MAP) Work Session

For organizations and individuals interested in advancing the recommendations laid out in the [Maternity Action Plan \(MAP\)](#), sign up for our final virtual work session – on Payment Systems.

- [Monday, February 27th: Reform Payment Systems to Drive High Quality Holistic Maternal Infant Health Care](#)



MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH HUB Midwifery Collaborative



Join the **Maternal Infant Health Hub's next Midwifery Collaborative** on **Thursday, March 9th from 1-2 pm**. This virtual convening for midwives, midwifery students, and health care stakeholders will focus on exploring perceptions of midwifery through guided conversation about participants' own experience and work environments, as well as discussion on future opportunities to build awareness of midwifery with targeted audiences and the general public.

Register for the Collaborative session to be a part of sustained dialogue around supporting full midwifery integration, sharing success stories, and analyzing policy challenges.

[Register Now](#)

RAND HOSPITAL PRICE TRANSPARENCY STUDY

OPPORTUNITY

The RAND study is an ongoing employer-led initiative to measure and publicly report the prices paid for hospital care at the hospital-and service-line level. These studies are an employer-led initiative that uses claims data to publicly compare hospital prices.

For [more information on the study](#) and to find out how to participate, employers and other large purchasers should contact RAND.

New Jersey's Division of Pension and Benefits previously participated in this study and, as shown in the [prior report](#), there is wide variation in paid hospital claims as a comparison to Medicare Rates.

This information is essential for policy makers and employers considering strategies to address health care spending.

[RAND Study FAQs](#)



Join the Quality Institute for our Member Engagement Event in Northern New Jersey on **March 30, from 8am – 9:30am** at the Hackensack Meridian Center for Discovery and Innovation (CDI), 111 Ideation Way, Nutley, NJ.

Network with other Quality Institute members over breakfast. Meet local leaders and health care decision makers. Get updates on health policy, quality improvement, and community health from Quality Institute staff. Learn about an innovative partnership in tech-driven patient safety from [Hackensack Meridian Health](#) and [Quest Diagnostics](#).

Register today. *This event is for members and invited guests only.*

[Register Now](#)

NEW MEMBER



Center for Great Expectations (CGE)

The [Center for Great Expectations \(CGE\)](#) provides uncompromised trauma-informed and client-centered care to marginalized individuals and families across New Jersey that breaks the cycles of

intergenerational trauma, abuse, and neglect. With a unique focus on pregnant/parenting women, CGE's foundational Trauma CARE® model delivers prevention and treatment services to individuals challenged by substance use and mental health issues.



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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