



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE **QUALITY INSTITUTE**

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



SCHWIMMER SCRIPT

PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER **N.J.'s Small Businesses Deserve a Fair Shot at Competitive Health Insurance**

Today, I am sharing my guest essay which was published yesterday in NJ.com. The essay focuses on the challenges that small businesses face when purchasing health benefits insurance for their employees. The state's Small Employer Health Insurance market needs to be modernized and strengthened to preserve it. Time is of the essence, as plan design for 2024 starts now. The link is below. I hope you read it and share it with others who want to ensure that small businesses are guaranteed a place to buy health insurance for their employees.

[Read Full Story](#)



LISA DIDIO



DIRECTOR OF SALES,
AMERIHEALTH NEW JERSEY



TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

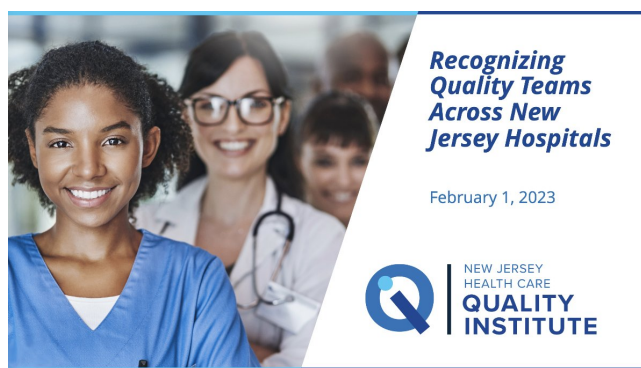
Lisa DiDio, Director of Sales for [AmeriHealth New Jersey](#), a member of the Quality Institute's Plan Council.

Interview Sneak Peek: *For our readers, please share which health insurance markets AmeriHealth New Jersey participates in?*

With the onset of the Affordable Care Act, we've been committed to offering health plans in the individual market, which we all know has expanded coverage for residents across the state of New Jersey. We also participate in New Jersey's state-based exchange, established in 2020. And we also focus on plans designed for small employers, mid-sized businesses, with a focus on municipalities and school systems across the state. Public sector groups have been a focus of ours...

[Read Full Interview](#)

Showing Gratitude to Quality Teams Across New Jersey



Last week, at a virtual breakfast meeting, attended by over 300 people, we expressed our gratitude to the quality and safety teams at every New Jersey hospital. Each CEO provided us with a list of the people within their hospitals who are directly responsible for their hospital's work on quality and safety. You can find their names [here](#).

We thanked each one of them with a gift card for a breakfast treat and our appreciation. Adelisa Perez-Hudgins, MSN, RN, Director of Quality, told the group: "We recognize your great work and tremendous commitment to our communities." Patient safety and quality improvement is a team effort across various departments

and levels of staff, clinical and nonclinical, but we honored the individuals identified by their organizations as leading these efforts and working to ensure safety and quality remains a top priority.

The breakfast included a presentation from Melissa Danforth, Vice President of Healthcare Ratings at [The Leapfrog Group](#), who [presented changes to the survey for 2023](#). The breakfast also included a panel discussion, moderated by Perez-Hudgins, with New Jersey health care safety and quality leaders who shared insight on the role of leadership in making safety a priority. A special thank you to those leaders:

- **Mark Arcaro, MD**, Vice President of Clinical Performance, Capital Health
- **Reginald Blaber, MD**, Executive Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer, Virtua Health
- **Juan Toro, BSN, RN, CCS**, Manager, Performance Improvement, Saint Clare's Health.



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.*

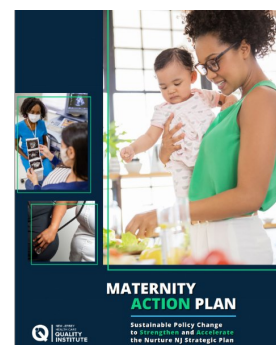
[Register Now](#)

Maternity Action Plan (MAP) Work Sessions

For organizations and individuals interested in advancing the recommendations laid out in the [Maternity Action Plan \(MAP\)](#), sign up for one or more of our **virtual work sessions**.

Register for a session topic you are interested in by clicking a title below:

- **Monday, February 13th: [Build the Workforce Needed to Achieve Birth Equity and Quality](#)**
- **Monday, February 27th: [Reform Payment Systems to Drive High Quality Holistic Maternal Infant Health Care](#)**



Pre-readings will be distributed to participants. Each session will feature examples of where MAP recommendations and concepts are being successfully implemented and how we can collectively work together.



**Unlocking the Power of Local Health Data:
How MWCs Can Leverage the City Health Dashboard**

REGISTER NOW

A screenshot of the City Health Dashboard website, showing a map of the United States and various data points. A red padlock icon is overlaid on the screenshot, indicating that the dashboard is currently locked or requires access.

Join us **Wednesday, February 22, at 10 a.m.** for a [Mayors Wellness Campaign](#) webinar focused on **how communities can access and leverage accurate, local data to improve residents' health outcomes.** The [City Health Dashboard](#) is a free online resource that provides city and neighborhood-level data on 45 measures of health outcomes, health drivers, and equity for 900+ U.S. cities. They seek to improve population health and equity by making data, knowledge, and policies accessible to a wide range of change-makers including local health departments

You Will Learn:

- To leverage the City Health Dashboard to determine your community's biggest health-related challenges
- To utilize the City Health Dashboard to help support your efforts to improve health and equity for residents in your community
- To apply to the [Put Us on the Map Challenge](#) and join communities throughout New Jersey on the map
- How Cranbury Township is putting this data to use through their MWC

Register Now

Submit your questions ahead of time to [Katie Bisaha](#), Community Health & Policy Associate.

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](#)



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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Our mailing address is:

New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
P.O. Box 2246, Princeton, New Jersey 08543

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