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NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

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



PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER **Momentous Gift and Collaboration Will Advance Geriatric Care and Research in New Jersey**

As a Trustee of Parker Health Group, it gives me great pride to share [news](#) about the organization's recent charitable gift and collaboration with Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Parker will give \$18.8 million to the medical school to support research and education focused on senior care. Parker is a member of the Quality Institute's Leadership Council, and the medical school is one of our founding members. To see the collaboration between these two committed Quality Institute members inspires us all to work even harder to improve health care throughout the life span.

The gift will create the Parker Health Group Division of Geriatrics in the medical school's Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. The goal will be to strengthen geriatric training for physicians, in partnership with nurses, pharmacists, physician assistants, and key caregivers. The focus will be on team-based, patient-centered care. This next generation of geriatricians will have the opportunity to work closely with Parker and obtain direct experience in Parker's high quality skilled nursing, assisted living, and adult day programs...

[Read Full Story](#)



TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Ed Jimenez, MBA, is the new president and CEO of University Hospital in Newark, a member of the Quality Institute's Provider Council.

Interview Sneak Peek: *You recently served as CEO of University of Florida Health Shands Hospital and held leadership positions at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and St. Joseph's Healthcare System. You also spent two years at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (now University Hospital) in the early aughts. As you return to New Jersey, what are the significant changes you see in the hospital landscape?*

Eighteen years ago, when I was at University Hospital, there were more standalone health care hospitals and institutions. There has been considerable consolidation as we've watched systems form and collaborate. The next change is that there were three medical schools in our state; now there are at least five by my count. And more hospitals are doing research and training future physicians. Institutions are trying to become more academic, and that doesn't change places like University Hospital, where the hospital, medical school, dental school, and school of public health are on the same campus...

[Read Full Interview](#)



NEWS WE ARE CELEBRATING

ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS NJ

FDA APPROVES OTC CONTRACEPTIVE PILL

In a historic step towards transforming contraceptive access, the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#) approved Opill, a progestin-only birth control pill (POP), for over-the-counter (OTC) use. Now, the U.S. will join 100+ countries that grant access to birth control pills without a prescription. The FDA's science based decision will expand contraceptive access for those who face the greatest barriers to care.

Our policy team, led by [Director of Policy, Kate Shamszad](#), has worked towards this goal with groups like [Free the Pill Coalition](#), comprised of over 200 reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations, youth activists, health care organizations, researchers, medical and health professional associations, and others working toward more equitable access to contraception. We support this monumental step forward for accessibility in health care. The next steps are addressing public awareness and any coverage and affordability issues – we're on it.

[Read Full Press Release](#)

NJ'S BUDGET INVESTS IN EVIDENCE-BASED HEALTHYSTEPS PROGRAM

The recently approved State budget for FY 2024 includes a game-changing \$1 million investment in HealthySteps, an evidence-based program supporting babies' and toddlers' strong start in life. Pediatric primary care offices will now have the resources to provide enhanced support, connecting families to essential services and offering guidance on child development and well-being. We applaud New Jersey policymakers' commitment to a brighter future for our youngest generation.

[Read Full Press Release](#)



MEMBER BREAKFAST & ENGAGEMENT EVENT

REGISTER NOW

NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

Parker
we make aging part of life

Join the Quality Institute for our upcoming in-person Engagement Event in Central New Jersey.

Wednesday, September 27 from 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. at [Parker Health Group](#), 15 Dellwood Lane, Somerset New Jersey.

Attend this event to:

- Network with other Quality Institute members and invited guests over breakfast.
- Meet local leaders and health care decision makers.
- Get updates on health policy, quality improvement, and community health from [Quality Institute staff](#).

These events are for members and invited guests only.

[Register for Engagement Event](#)



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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