NEW JERSEY
HEALTH CARE
QUALITY
INSTITUTE

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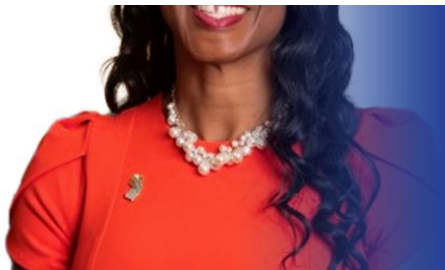

SCHWIMMER
SCRIPT

PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER
Quality Institute Outlines Policy Priorities for 2024

We finished 2023 with major successes on improving health care access and equity. Two laws, both based on our earlier **white paper,** were enacted to make the New Jersey small employer health insurance market more affordable. Next, based on **our call for action**, the governor signed a law on Monday enabling licensed clinical social workers, professional counselors, and marriage and family therapists to directly bill New Jersey Medicaid for their services. The law will dramatically expand access to behavioral health care for people insured through Medicaid. These successes and other steps we took in 2023 with you, our members, lay the groundwork for our ambitious 2024 policy agenda. Here is a preview of our 2024 priorities...

Read Full Story

RIA N. RODNEY

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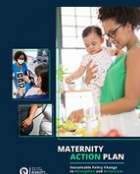## Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Ria Rodney, Director of **Nurture NJ**, the initiative that aims to make New Jersey the safest and most equitable place in the nation to deliver and raise a baby.

Interview Sneak Peek: *What changes in the perinatal health care workforce are most needed?*

We have grown the number of midwives in our state, and we now have more continuing education and training available to our midwives. We have seen an increase in all perinatal health care workers across the board. We also have increased the number of community health workers — these are the folks on the ground connecting consumers to resources. And moving forward, we're continuing to strengthen our perinatal workforce through implicit bias training and strengthening partnerships between doulas and our hospitals...

Read Full Interview

MATERNITY ACTION PLAN
Work Sessions for 2024

Maternity Action Plan (MAP) Community-Based Social Supports Work Session - January 24 - 12 p.m.- 2 p.m.: Join us for the first virtual MAP work session of 2024 where we will focus on community-based social supports. This event will feature co-facilitators Melanie Ernest, Director of Community-based Programs at **Virtua**, and Jonathan Tew, Regulatory Officer at New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services. **Future work sessions** will be in April and June.

Register Now

UPCOMING EVENTS
REGISTER NOW!

Maternal Infant Health (MIH) Hub's Midwifery Collaborative - January 25 - 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.: In honor of Maternal Health Awareness Day (1/23), at this session we will discuss the importance of midwifery integration in clinical settings and team-based care between midwives and physicians. Register now.

Virtual Breakfast and Quality Learning Session - February 1 - 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.: Hear from subject matter experts, Michelle L. Salvatore, MD, FACOG, Medical Director of Inpatient Women's Services, Virtua Health, and Iuliana Shapira, MD, FACP, Chief Medical Officer, Regional Cancer Care Associates, on best practices in shared decision making and informed consent. Also, hear about 2024 changes to the Leapfrog Hospital Survey from Melissa Danforth, Vice President of Healthcare Ratings, The Leapfrog Group. Register now.

Quality Institute Spring All-Council Conference - **May 14:** Save the date for our Spring All-Council Conference. *More details to come soon. For members and invited guests only.*

Maternity Action Plan Convening – September 20: Save the date for our in-person MAP Convening in Princeton, New Jersey. *Participation in at least one 2024 MAP Work Session is required.*