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## What's Included In This Edition:

**Schwimmer Script** - Quality Institute Leading Statewide Mapping of Children's Mental Health Access and Systems of Care

**Take Five Interview** - Chuck Cerniglia, Executive Director at UnitedHealthcare of New Jersey

**Conversation of Your Life (COYL)** - Register for Social Work Perspectives on Advance Care Planning in Aging Webinar on 11/3



## Quality Institute Leading Statewide Mapping of Children's Mental Health Access and Systems of Care

Fall days and "back to school" highlight the urgent need for stronger mental health services and systems to ensure every child can thrive both academically and emotionally. To meet this rising need, the Quality Institute, with funding from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, is leading a far-reaching initiative called: **[A Clearer Path to Care: Mapping New Jersey's Children's Mental Health System.](#)**

The goal is to delve deeply into New Jersey's systems of mental health care for children and make policy recommendations based on the findings. In this effort, we are asking, where does the system work well; where is there duplication or disconnects; where are there gaps in access? The goal is to make the current systems more transparent to those who fund and use them and to propose policy changes that make these systems easier to navigate and better coordinated for families, educators, and health care providers across the state. We began the project in 2025 and will conclude in the middle of next year...

[Read Full Story](#)

## TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Chuck Cerniglia,  
*Executive Director, UnitedHealthcare of New Jersey*



### Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

[UnitedHealthcare](#) and [UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of New Jersey](#) are members of the Quality Institute's Plan Council.

**Interview Sneak Peek:** *The Quality Institute recently publicly shared [its top health care policy priorities](#) for New Jersey with the two Gubernatorial candidates. From UnitedHealthcare's perspective, what is the most pressing health care issue or opportunity you would want the next administration to focus on?*

We are working closely with stakeholders across the health system to help expand access to behavioral health services, especially in underserved communities. [Virtual care](#) can be a key part of that solution. The bottom line is that we want to see a health care system that's more affordable and accessible for New Jerseyans.

UnitedHealthcare is deeply committed to helping people live healthier lives. That starts with helping New Jersey residents access affordable, quality care, regardless of where they live, their income level, or background.

We also support policies that promote value-based care, digital health adoption, and preventive services and more. Preventive care can improve treatment outcomes and reduce health care costs by catching health issues early — before they become more difficult and expensive to treat...

[Read Full Interview](#)



REGISTER FOR **COYL** SOCIAL WORK WEBINAR ON 11/3

Please join us for an engaging virtual webinar, "Social Work Perspectives on Advance Care Planning in Aging," on **Monday, November 3, from 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.**, to learn how Advance Care Planning (ACP) is integrated across different social work settings. This session brings together social workers from various practice settings to share their experiences and perspectives on ACP in hospice, community, and private practice. Attendees will gain practical tools to initiate ACP conversations, address common myths and misconceptions, and advocate more effectively for their clients'

wishes across the continuum of care.

**Panelists:**

- **Joan Ordille, DSW, LCSW** – Hospice & Palliative Care, [Rutgers School of Social Work](#)
- **Tracey Arnauer, MSW, LCSW** – Community-Based Practice, [Holy Name](#)
- **Molly Fischer, LCSW** – Private Practice

**Moderated By:**

- **Lauren Snedeker, DSW, LCSW, LNHA** – Assistant Professor of Teaching & Director of the Certificate on Aging and Health, [Rutgers School of Social Work](#)
- **Katie Bisaha** – Program Officer, [New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute](#)

**Register Now**



For information on how to join, please contact Virginia Tesser at [vtesser@njhcqi.org](mailto:vtesser@njhcqi.org).

To learn more about our current initiatives, please visit our website at [www.njhcqi.org](http://www.njhcqi.org).

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