



April 2025

**Quality Improvement Program - New Jersey
(QIP-NJ) Announcements & Updates**

Dear QIP-NJ Program Participants,

The Department of Health (DOH) encourages hospitals and other interested parties to review this newsletter to help ensure your teams stay up-to-date on important news and announcements regarding QIP-NJ. As always, all newsletters will be posted to the QIP-NJ Documents & Resources webpage within approximately one week of distribution. If you have any questions, concerns, or to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com. Thank you!

- [DOH Corner](#)
- [Learning Collaborative Updates](#)
- [MY4 Data Submission Best Practices Webinar and Guidance](#)
- [MY4 Attribution Pending](#)
- [MY4 and MY5 Databook, SRT, and VSC Updates](#)
- [MY5 Preprints](#)
- [Other State Initiatives and Programs](#)

DOH Corner

We are now approximately four months into MY 5 of QIP-NJ, which began in January and will run through the end of the year. DOH continues to appreciate all the time, effort, and resources that participating hospitals are putting into QIP-NJ and looks forward to seeing continued quality improvement for both the maternal health and BH populations.

DOH is pleased to announce that on April 11, 2025, we received one-year approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for MY5 of QIP-NJ.

As always, should participating hospitals have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the QIP-NJ Team via email at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Learning Collaborative Updates

NOW AVAILABLE: Final Outcomes Survey and Registration Link for Final Outcomes Call on 5/28 from 12 to 1PM EST

The SDOH Learning Collaborative (SDOHLC) Final Outcomes Call is **on May 28, 2025 from 12 to 1PM EST!** This call will provide a space for teams to reflect on their experiences in the SDOHLC and further develop their sustainability plans. The results from the final outcomes survey will be shared and discussed during the call as well.

Please complete the survey (hyperlinked [here](#)) to ensure your experiences are reflected in the results. **The deadline to complete the survey is May 9, 2025.** Please register for the Final Outcomes Call [here](#).

Extended Deadline for SDOHLC Highlight Video Submissions

The deadline to submit a video for inclusion in the SDOHLC highlight video has been extended to **May 8th, 2025!** The highlight video will recap the important work accomplished throughout the SDOHLC. You can find the submission guidelines below, and in a Word document [here](#). You can find this information on the Participant Communications page of the SDOHLC portal as well. Emma, the SDOHLC Senior Advisor, created [example video 1](#) and [example video 2](#) to show how simple your videos can be!

Teams can submit their videos using this form:

<https://forms.gle/Yi4hG1QvVXDhY85x6> If you would like an additional extension, please email the SDOHLC faculty at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Prompts

While creating your video, the SDOHLC faculty wants you to consider these questions:

- **What are you most proud of in your work with the Collaborative?**
- **How have your partnerships evolved over time? What successes have you seen as a result?**
- **What areas for improvement have you seen the most growth?**

Choose at least 1 of the following prompts or provide your thoughts extemporaneously.

- *Participation in the Collaborative helped my team achieve...*
- *I knew we had made a difference when...*
 - Could include success cases or non-PHI patient anecdotes
- *I'm so proud of the strides we've made towards...*
- *Last year... and this year...*
- *We strengthened our relationships in the community by...*
- Show an example of a new script, workflow, or process that you are proud of.

April 2025 Data Submission due on May 16, 2025

The next SDOHLC data submission, for the April 2025 data, is **Friday, May 16, 2025 at 5PM EST**. The link to the monthly data submission is copied below, and is available on the Program Materials page of the SDOHLC portal:

<https://pcgus.jotform.com/242065631394153>

Teams may find it helpful to review the following materials when planning how to collect data for the SDOHLC monthly data submissions:

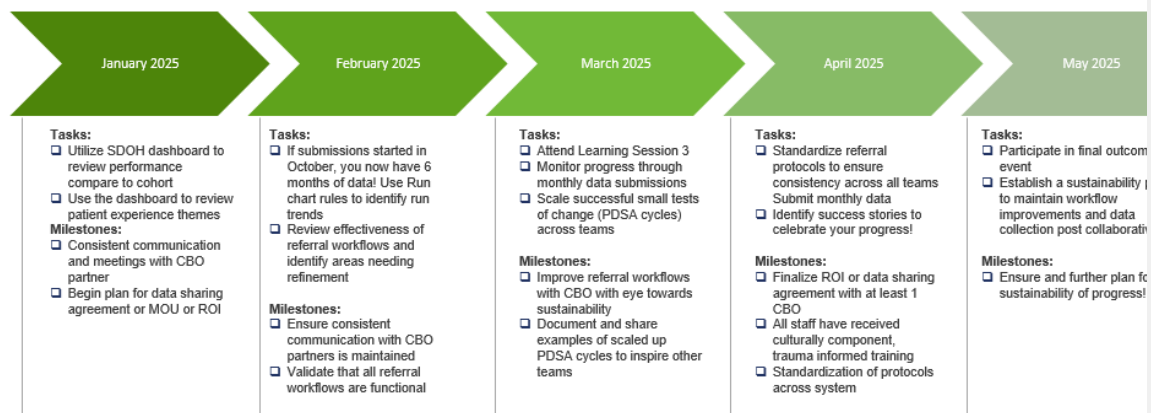
- July 31, 2024 data submission webinar materials (July 31, 2024 [recording](#) and [slides](#))
- Collaborative Measurement Review, Dak Ojuka and Christina Southey (45:32 in LS1 Day 2 [recording](#))

- Learning Session 2 Measurement Session, Dak Ojuka and Christina Southey (42:04 in the LS2 Day 2 [recording](#))
- Learning Session 3 QI & Sustainability session ([recording](#))

We also encourage and allow late submissions for previous months' data. If you need an extension to submit the April 2025 data (or to submit data any time from September to now), please reach out to the SDOHLC faculty at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Extended SDOHLC Roadmap and May Focus

The extended roadmap below outlines key milestones and activities over the course of the SDOHLC. A large version of the image is also included in the Measurement Strategy. This is not a strict timeline; teams may use this roadmap as a resource to guide their progress.



In May 2025, teams should plan to:

- **Attend the Final Outcomes Event:** Celebrate your team's individual and shared successes and view the SDOHLC highlight video!
- **Continue to build a sustainability plan:** Integrate the MOCHA model into your team's sustainability plans to ensure that the SDOHLC work continues to evolve to your target population's needs after the end of the Collaborative.

Opportunities within NJ FamilyCare Programs

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) developed the **Housing Supports Program** to ensure that Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare members can live in a safe, healthy, and affordable home. The program provides support for those with complex medical or behavioral health needs that are in need of housing supports, including:

- Pre-tenancy Services (case management)
- Tenancy Sustaining Services (case management)
- Move-in Supports
- Residential Modifications and Remediation Services

Camden Coalition is the main technical assistance provider for this initiative (although all regional health hubs will assist with this roll out). We encourage participating teams to learn more about the program [here](#) to consider how the program can support SDOH-focused work that is already underway to address housing insecurity, and to consider how the program can support the sustainability of their SDOHLC work.

In addition, NJ FamilyCare is offering a **one-time pantry stocking and short-term grocery provision program for the MLTSS population**. Hospitals should contact the MLTSS coordinator at each MCO representing their patient population to identify which services providers will start billing for pantry stocking and short-term grocery supports, then consider how this might impact your referral procedures. You can read more about the opportunity [here](#).

MY4 Data Submission Best Practices Webinar and Guidance

As MY3 processes conclude, the QIP-NJ team is preparing a webinar on best practices and requirements for participating hospitals prior to MY4 data submission. Program Leads should watch for an invitation from QIP-NJ@pcqus.com for the webinar which will be held on **Thursday, May 29th, 2025, at 2:30 PM EST**.

MY4 Attribution Pending

Following receipt of MY5 Letters of Intent, DOH and DHS are verifying hospital-provided Medicaid IDs and NPIs. These IDs will be used to tabulate MY4 Attribution totals following MY4 claims runout. Thereafter, DOH will provide hospital-specific and aggregate cohort attribution totals.

MY4 and MY5 Databook, SRT, and VSC Updates

The MY4 Databook, Standard Reporting Template (SRT) and SRT Guide, and Value Set Compendium (VSC) are currently posted on the QIP-NJ [website](#). These documents will be necessary for MY4 reporting later this year.

MY5 draft versions of the Databook and VSC have also been published to the QIP-NJ website. Those will be required for MY5 reporting. For all these updates, the QIP-NJ Team recommends reviewing the change logs of each of each as a starting point.

MY5 Preprints

DOH and the Department of Human Services (DHS) submitted the MY5 Preprints under 438.6c for QIP-NJ to CMS in December 2024. We are happy to share that CMS has approved the MY5 Preprints for QIP-NJ on April 11, 2025.

Other State Initiatives and Programs

- The **Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Advocates (MoMMAs Voices) team has created a comprehensive resource hub**. This hub includes valuable information from healthcare systems, Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (PQCs), non-profits, and quality improvement initiatives to support maternal health efforts. Teams can find resources on national and local SUD support, as well as information on opioid, alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, and stimulant use. It also covers best practices for screening and reporting, along with patient education and advocacy. You can access the hub [here](#).
- The **CDC's Million Hearts® Hypertension in Pregnancy Action Forum (HPAF)** is a national collaborative for clinical, public health, and community-based partners to exchange best and promising practices, identify solutions to common obstacles, and share resources related to improving hypertension management for women during and after pregnancy. This program has ongoing forum sessions that can promote new knowledge and share best practices nationally. Additionally, the program website has some resources that QIP-NJ maternal health teams might find useful, including resources for treating hypertension in the prenatal period and some resources for postpartum blood pressure monitoring.
- The **Ancient Song Give Away** is a monthly event where caregivers can receive free diapers, wipes, and baby essentials. The next giveaway is on May 17, from 10 AM to 2 PM, at 50 Church St., Montclair, NJ 07402, on the 1st floor. These events recur every 3rd Saturday of the month.



- **Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO)** training is an evidence-based training used by birthing providers and interprofessional maternity care teams to handle obstetric emergencies. NJ DOH encourages teams to look into the components of the training. You can find more information on the training program [here](#).
- **Alma Program for Southern Jersey Hospitals: Nurture NJ** has announced the availability of the Alma Program, a free, evidence-based, peer-to-peer mentoring program designed to help make the parenting journey a little easier. The program connects expecting mothers and recently postpartum moms experiencing feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress with trained professionals that have faced similar challenges. Through weekly meetings, participants receive support and share skills that have the potential to make a big difference as they step into a new chapter in their lives.

The Alma program is currently offered in South Jersey but has plans to expand to Central and North Jersey later this year. To learn more about the Alma Program, to enroll, or to refer a mom, visit www.snjpc.org/alma.

- The **Nurture NJ Strategic Plan**, which aims to make NJ the safest and most equitable place in the national to deliver and raise a baby. Please check the [Nurture NJ website](#) for more information and to discover new ways to become engaged.
- The **NJ Maternal Care Quality Collaborative (NJMCQC)** has transitioned to the **New Jersey Maternal Health Innovation Authority (NJMIHIA)**. Please visit their [website](#) for updates and additional information. The NJMIHIA is governed by a 15-member Board and an appointed President and Chief Executive Officer and support staff. The Board will adopt recommendations for action to reduce maternal mortality, morbidity, and disparities from the NJMCQC. The Board also coordinates with a Community Advisory Committee to support and inform its work. The 11-member Community Advisory Committee will represent diverse community groups with relevant experience as providers or recipients of maternal, infant, and child health services.
 - NJMIHIA's meetings are open to the public and the last meeting was held on April 23 from 10am to 12pm ET. Additional information, including meeting materials, will be published on the [NJMIHIA website](#), so please continue to check back regularly. For additional information about the NJMIHIA, please feel free to email the team at info@njmihia.gov.
- Funded by DOH, **NJ Quit Centers** provide residents of New Jersey with resources and support to stop or reduce their use of tobacco including e-cigarettes, disposables, pouches, and other related products. Quit Centers can and do play an integral role in helping clinical facilities meet their goal of advancing statewide quality improvements for BH under QIP-NJ Measure BH8: Substance Use Screening and Intervention Composite. More information regarding Quit Centers, including contact information for the Inspira Quit Center and RWJ Barnabas Health Institute for Prevention and Recovery (IFPR) Nicotine and Tobacco Recovery Program, can be found here: <https://www.tobaccofreenj.com/quit-smoking>.
- **DHS' Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)**, which serves as the Single State Agency (SSA) for Substance Abuse and the State Mental Health Authority (SMHA), as designated by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), also oversees NJ's adult system of community-based BH

services. Please [check DMHAS' website](#) for more information and discover new ways to become engaged.

- **DHS' Episode of Care (EOC) Pilot** is a three-year pilot to test a new alternative payment model for prenatal, labor, and postpartum services statewide. More information regarding the EOC Pilot can be found on DHS' [website](#) at the link below. Performance Period 1 (15 months) of the EOC Pilot ran from April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Performance Period 2 (12 months) ran from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Performance Period 3 (12 months) began on July 1, 2024 and will run through June 30, 2025. For more information about the EOC Pilot, please visit DHS' website at: [Episode of Care Pilot \(nj.gov\)](#). For questions, please send an email to the DHS team at mahs.maternityepisode@dhs.nj.gov.

