



December 2024

**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@pcqus.com. Thank you!

- [DOH Corner](#)
- [Learning Collaborative Updates](#)
- [MY3 Results](#)
- [MY5 LOI Materials](#)
- [MY5 Preprints](#)
- [Quality Measures Committee](#)
- [BH10/M008 Care Transition Measure \(CTM\) Survey Data](#)
- [Other State Initiatives and Programs](#)

DOH Corner

MY4 of QIP-NJ concludes on December 31st, which is just around the corner. To that end, DOH wants to sincerely thank all of our hospital partners as they work to complete MY4 and close out any remaining deliverables.

DOH wants to remind our hospital partners that MY5 starts on January 1, 2025, subject to federal approval by CMS. More information regarding CMS approval will be released once it becomes available.

As we look ahead towards the new year and MY5 of QIP-NJ, DOH wishes all of our hospital partners and their families a happy and healthy holiday season!

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

Learning Collaborative Updates

Register for the January Coaching Call on 1/29 at 12PM

The next SDOHLC coaching call is on **January 29, 2024, from 12 to 1 PM EST!** The call will focus on relationship-building with Community Benefits Organizations (CBOs) from the CBO perspective. Attendees will have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of how to navigate the initial stages of relationship building & stakeholder engagement and build effective partnerships. The insights from the session will be applicable across each Collaborative domain, so we encourage all SDOHLC team members to attend.

You can register for the session [here](#).

Complete the LS2 Evaluation Form by December 20 to Claim CEU Credits!

If you need to claim CEU credits for Action Period 1 (the October and November Coaching Calls) and/or LS2 and you have already completed the LS2 evaluation form but have **not** received your certificate within 7-10 days of completing the form, and/or have any additional questions or concerns regarding CEU credits, please directly contact the Rutgers University team via email at cce@ubhc.rutgers.edu.

Extended Deadlines for SDOHLC Data Submissions

Due to the holiday season and this month's Learning Session, the SDOHLC faculty is offering an extension for submitting the November 2024 data on an as requested basis. If you would like to extension to submit November's data, please reach out to the SDOHLC faculty at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

The following SDOHLC data submission deadline, for December 2024 data, is **Friday, January 17, 2024 at 5PM EST**. The link to the monthly data submission portal 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](#))

NOW AVAILABLE: Learning Session 2 Materials Posted in Portal

LS2 took place on December 11 and 12, 2024. We had insightful presentations from experts, fellow participants, and community-based organizations in New Jersey. If you missed or would like to review any part of LS2, the recordings and materials are now available on the SDOHLC portal.

- Day 1 [slides](#)
- Day 1 [recording](#)
Introduction: **0:00**
Cooper UHC Spotlight Presentation **14:58**
Bergen New Bridge Medical Center Spotlight Presentation **44:35**
Patient Listening Session **1:10:15**
- Day 2 [slides](#)
- Day 2 [recording](#)
Introduction & Day 1 recap **0:00**
University Hospital Spotlight Presentation **10:30**
Measurement Session **42:04**
NJ Office of Homelessness Prevention Housing Services and Supports Presentation **73:43**

Closing remarks 1:28:22

You can also find additional materials from our LS2 speakers on the Resources page in the SDOHLC portal:

- [INSPIRE: Nine Dimensions of Authentic Community Engagement](#): A resource from the Camden Coalition emphasizing best practices and principles when fostering effective and equitable partnerships between healthcare organizations and communities.
- [NJ Department of Community Affairs Office of Homelessness Prevention](#) (OHP): The OHP coordinates efforts to prevent homelessness among state and local agencies and private organizations. It advances innovative practices, uses data to drive decision-making, and provides technical assistance and training to support those at risk of homelessness. We encourage participating teams to look into opportunities in the OHP's programming to enhance and sustain the work done in the SDOHLC.

The LS2 storyboards and participant directory (attendees who opted into being on the list on the LS2 registration form) can be found on the Participant Materials page along with the Syllabus and Team Charter Planning Form. We encourage all participants to review the storyboards from their breakout groups as well as those from other hospitals. Feel free to reach out to any teams if you have questions about their SDOHLC strategies!

Schedule a 1:1 Coaching Call with Christina During Action Period 2!

Christina Southey, the SDOHLC improvement advisor, is available for 1:1 coaching calls with SDOHLC teams during Action Period 2 (December 2024 to March 2025)! The meetings are an opportunity to ask targeted questions and receive specific feedback on your team's SDOHLC strategy. If you would like to meet at any time during Action Period 2, please reach out to the SDOHLC faculty at QIP-NJ@pcqus.com.

SDOHLC Extension to May 2025

As noted in last month's newsletter, DOH and the SDOHLC faculty have extended the Collaborative **from February 2025 until May 2025**.

You can find the updated SDOHLC event calendar below and on the Event Calendar page of the portal. Thank you for your dedication to this important work!

Action Period 2 and 1:1 coaching	December 2024 to February 2025
January Coaching Call	January 29, 2024, 12 - 1PM (register here)
February Coaching Call	February 26, 2024, 12 - 1PM
Extended Period & 1:1 coaching	March 2025 to May 2025
Learning Session 3	March 26 & 27, 2025 from 10AM - 1PM each day
April Coaching Call	April 30, 2025, 12 - 1PM
Final Celebration Event	May 28, 2025, 12 - 1PM

Extended SDOHLC Roadmap and December Focus

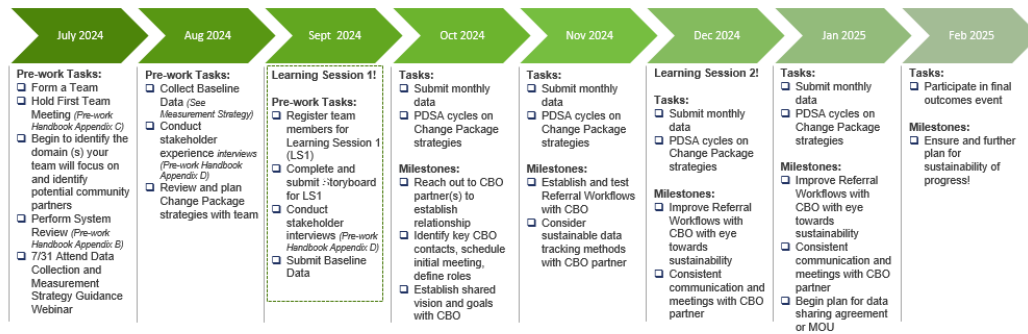
The extended roadmap below outlines key milestones and activities over the course of the SDOHLC. A large version of the image is also included in the Measurement Strategy. This is not a strict timeline; teams may use this

roadmap as a resource to guide their progress.

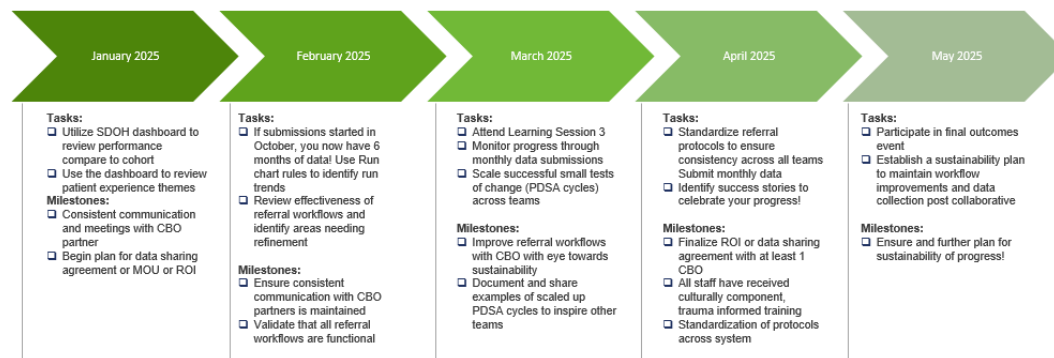
SDOHLC Tasks and Relationship Building Roadmap



*Adapted from Oaks Integrated Care "Building Effective Relationships with Community Partners- Key Steps From the Field" presentation from the QIP-NJ Behavioral Health Learning Collaborative in 2021 (Session Recording Available for SDOHLC Participants Upon Request).



46



47

SDOHLC Dashboard Now Available in Participant Portal

The SDOHLC dashboard was launched during the November Coaching Call. It is in the SDOHLC portal, under the "Participant Tools" tab drop-down menu. The "Program Materials" page will also be located within this dropdown menu.

Each participating team's designated Tableau license-holder received an email from the QIP-NJ team on November 20, 2024, with instructions on how to access the dashboard. We recommend accessing the dashboard with

Chrome or Microsoft Edge. **If you experience issues with the two-factor authentication process, please contact Tableau directly.**

The following dashboard pages/views are available to support your team's performance in the SDOHLC:

- The Summary Dashboard tab serves as the central command center to quickly assess performance trends for the SDOHLC, offering a comprehensive snapshot of our monthly performance. It is a tool for tracking domain-specific outcomes, exploring emerging patient feedback themes, and monitoring CBO relationship development through SDOHLC interactive roadmap.
- The Qualitative Dashboard brings the SDOHLC partnerships to life through an interactive map of SDOHLC participating hospitals. This visual tool not only displays the geographical spread of the SDOHLC network but also provides a detailed inventory of the participating teams' community partnerships across housing, meal, and transportation supports. The dashboard offers a clear view of organizational SDOH training progress and helps identify potential partnership opportunities within your region.
- The Quantitative Dashboard allows teams to view individual hospital performance for Measure 1: Completion rate for Follow Up Services after SDOH screening. Teams can also compare their performance with other hospitals through customizable views and filtering capabilities.

MY3 Results

The Department is finalizing the review of MY3 claims-based and non-claims-based (NCB) appeals. Letters containing final MY3 results will include MY4 targets, with a separate notice containing MY3 payment amounts to follow. Both are anticipated in January with authorization for Medicaid Managed Care Organizations to render payments within 2025 Q1.

MY5 LOI Materials

For MY5 of QIP-NJ, DOH used the same LOI process that was used for prior MYs. MY5 LOI materials were distributed via email earlier last month and require all NJ acute care hospitals to affirmatively respond indicating whether they intend to participate in MY5 of QIP-NJ. In confirming or declining

participation, hospitals have acknowledged and agreed to the set of conditions listed in the LOI materials. The LOI materials are available on the [Documents and Resources](#) page of the QIP-NJ website. Responses from hospitals were due at **5:00 PM EST on December 20, 2024**. While the QIP-NJ LOI is a formal indication to DOH of a hospital's intention, it is not a legally binding document. If you have not returned an LOI or received confirmation from the QIP-NJ Team, please contact QIP-NJ@pcgus.com ASAP.

MY5 Preprints

DOH and the Department of Human Services (DHS) submitted the MY5 Preprints under 438.6c for QIP-NJ to CMS last month. DOH will provide regular updates as our team works with CMS to secure necessary approvals.

Quality Measures Committee

Following the eleventh and final QMC meeting for QIP-NJ, DOH reviewed feedback and released decisions to QMC members earlier this month. While there were few changes given the maturity of the program, there was consensus among members and DOH to allow the inclusion of CPT codes noted in the NJ Department of Human Services of Medical Assistance & Health Services Newsletter Vol. 34 No. 6 (June 2024) for numerator compliance on certain measures. These codes will be incorporated in an updated Databook and Value Set Compendium, estimated for release next month. DOH sincerely appreciates QMC members for their time and attention in supporting QIP-NJ measurement policies.

BH10/M008 Care Transition Measure (CTM) Survey Data

Some QIP-NJ participating hospitals have noted challenges accessing identifiable results from CTM surveys. Identifiable results are necessary to match responses to patients/members on attribution rosters. In preparation for MY4 data submission next summer, if your hospital has been having this difficulty, DOH and the QIP-NJ would like to remind you to begin conversations with survey vendors as soon as possible to ensure that you can identify QIP-NJ attributed patients in those results before the reports are issued to the hospital. Hospitals can email the QIP-NJ team at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com to connect with other hospitals who were able to work through challenges on this matter.

Other State Initiatives and Programs

- 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 January 18th, 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 latest meeting was held on December 18th 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.

