



41 State Street • Suite 900  
Albany, NY 12207  
518.462.2293  
www.nyhpa.org

# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

October 11, 2023

**CONTACT:**

Leslie S. Moran  
518.462.2293  
(cell) 518.588.6655

**HPA URGES STATE LEADERS TO FULLY FUND THE MEDICAID QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM:  
*New Booklet Highlights Importance of Funding to Support Ongoing Health Plan Efforts with  
Providers & Community Organizations to Eliminate Disparities & Advance Equity in Health Care***

The New York Health Plan Association (HPA) today issued *Supporting the Medicaid Quality Improvement Program: Reducing Disparities, Improving Care, Savings Lives*, highlighting how health plans are working to address the core causes of health disparities and advance the quality – and equity – of care for underserved populations by supporting providers and community-based organizations through the Medicaid Quality Incentive (QI) Program.

The QI Program measures health plans on their performance in addressing the key factors that contribute to health disparities that Medicaid members face. This can include whether pregnant individuals receive timely pre- and post-natal care, whether children and adults receive appropriate preventive care and screenings, and whether home-bound members receive care to keep them healthy and out of the hospital. Health plans only receive incentive funding for meeting or exceeding performance metrics that the Department of Health sets.

The booklet spotlights a range of programs from across the state, including New Yorkers who have benefited from the investments health plans have made in partnering with providers and community groups to deliver high-quality, equitable care to the state’s most vulnerable residents. This includes:

- Connecting high-risk pregnant women with registered nurses and community health workers in Brooklyn;
- Diabetes management efforts that have helped patients lower their A1C levels in the Bronx;
- Extending office hours to expand access for pediatric patients on Long Island;
- Housing support and immigration assistance to help homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence in the Capital Region; and
- Addressing housing insecurity in Buffalo.

While the QI Program has been essential in advancing quality in Medicaid, funding has been consistently reduced over the last several years. HPA is urging state leaders to fully fund the program in the FY25 State Budget, increasing funding from \$112 million in the current year budget to \$268 million.

“New York has been a national leader in delivering high-quality care to its Medicaid beneficiaries, because of the innovative programs developed and supported by health plans and their provider and community partners,” said Eric Linzer, President and CEO of HPA. “Full funding of the Quality Incentive Program in next year’s budget is essential to continue and enhance our ongoing efforts to eliminate disparities and deliver high-quality, equitable care for every New Yorker.”

The program booklet is available on the HPA website at <https://nyhpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/NYHPA-QIP-booklet.pdf>.