Promoting Interoperability Programs: Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder

October 8, 2024

NEW JERSEY HUMAN SERVICES

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Introductions

NJII Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Promoting Interoperability Program Webinar

October 8, 2024

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Topics for Today:

- Overview of New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII) and New Jersey Health Information Network (NJHIN)

- Preview of NJ Opioid Epidemic, and Key Strategies to combat the Crisis

- New Jersey Medicaid: North Star Principles and Interoperability Program Goals

- Understanding Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Behavioral Health (BH) Promoting Interoperability (PI) Programs
  - History and Timeline
  - Administration and Stakeholders
  - Eligibility Criteria
  - Milestone Incentives
  - NJMMIS Attestation Workflow
  - SUD PI Program Highlights
  - PI Program Outlook

- SUD PI Program Success Stories and Testimonials

- Q&A

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About New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII)

- New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII) was founded in 2014 and combines the vast resources of NJIT, strong industry and government relationships, and proven methods to drive innovation and deliver transformative products and services.

- To achieve this, NJII is organized into five innovative divisions that guide our activities
  - **Healthcare**
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Defense & Homeland Security
  - Learning and Development Initiative
  - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

Our Role in Healthcare

- Design and support interoperability throughout the state connecting providers to their patients and streamlining coordination of care

- Allowing easy access to consumers for their state-wide health information

- Manage large-scale transformation and integration projects

- Help healthcare providers participate in and benefit from government sponsored programs

- Advisory services to enable innovation, transformation and quality improvement

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NJ Health Information Network (NJHIN)

The Collaboration:

NJHIN is a health information network managed and operated by New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII), funded by the New Jersey Department of Health and Department of Human Services.
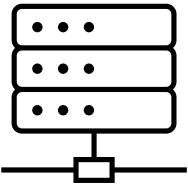
The Network:

This is a tool that enables the secure electronic exchange of patient health information among trusted data sources across the entire state of New Jersey. It is the only network that can connect to state health databases and to ensure a comprehensive data set.
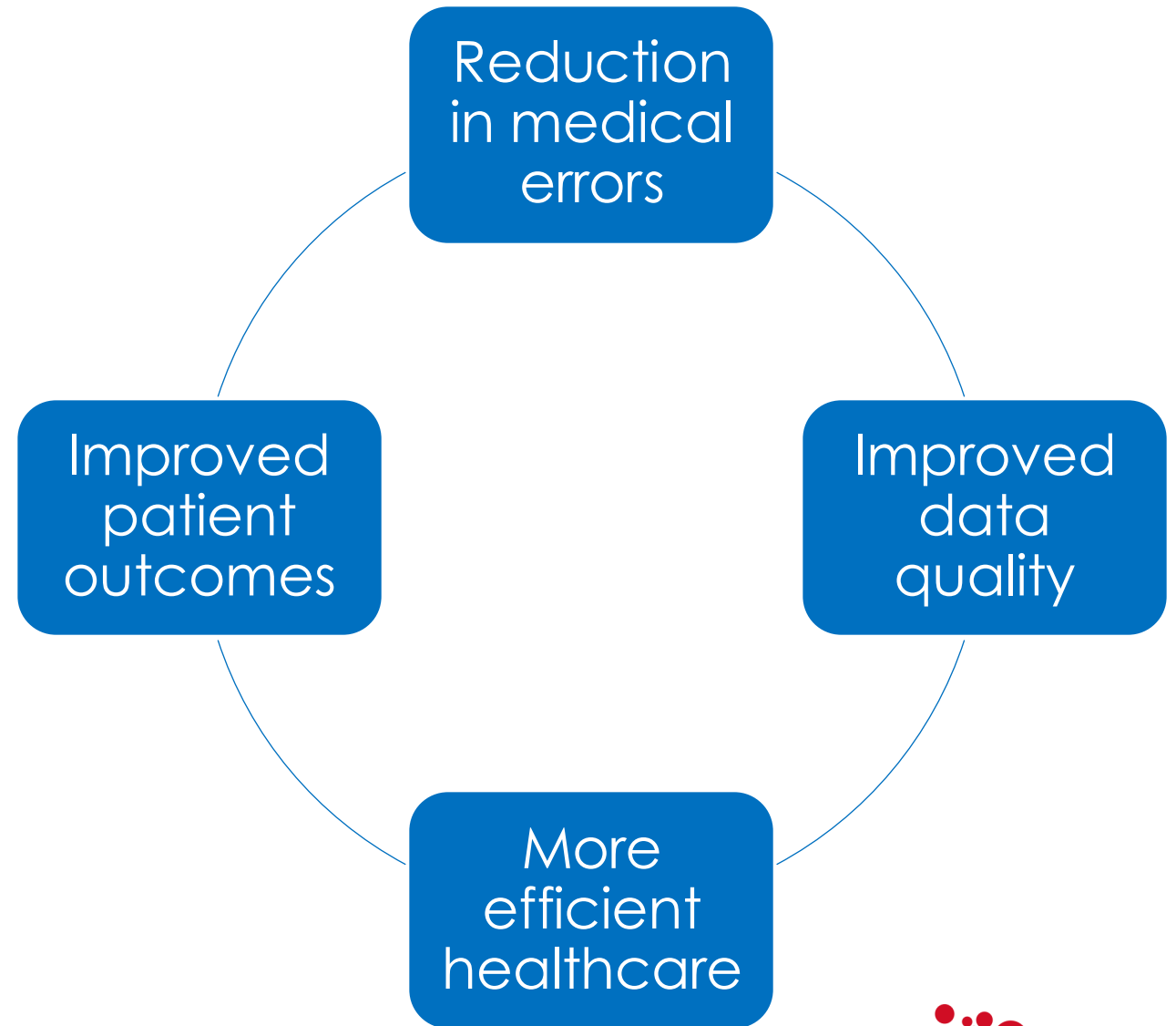
The Data Security

NJII works with trusted data sharing organizations (TDSOs), including healthcare providers, healthcare information exchanges (HIEs) and regional health hubs, to connect to the NJHIN.

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Key Benefits

When utilized by New Jersey practices, NJHIN provides access to comprehensive medical records.

The result of this information-sharing and increased interoperability is reduced cost of healthcare and improved patient outcome.

- Reduction in medical errors
- Improved data quality
- More efficient healthcare
- Improved patient outcomes

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Benefits of the NJHIN

Low barrier to entry with high value:

- Reach milestone 3 in the Substance Use Disorder and Behavioral Health Promoting Interoperability Programs

- Improve care coordination

- There is no cost to participants

- NJII staff supports during onboarding

- Required for anyone receiving charity care funding

- Receive alerts on patient hospital events

- Improve patient outcomes

- Reduce hospital re-admissions

- Meet federal and state mandates

Escalation in Opioid Epidemic due to COVID-19

- COVID-19-> Perfect storm in overdoses: Increased stress, exposure to trauma, social isolation, grief, loss of employment plus diminished access to treatment created ripe conditions for an uptick in overdoses.

- Increased Behavioral Health needs among the following groups due to COVID:

  - Frontline workers

  - Impact by COVID-19 death

  - Existing BH needs and new BH needs from quarantine

  - Recent unemployment

  - Increased domestic violence

  - The importance of Collaboration and Interoperability is only heightened in recent times.

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The Drug Overdose Epidemic

Behind the Numbers

- Provisional data from the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics indicate there were an estimated 107,543 drug overdose deaths in the United States during 2023.

- Of the 107,543 drug overdose deaths nationwide, 81,083 of those involved opioids, including prescription opioids, heroin and synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

- While the total number of fentanyl deaths declined modestly in 2023, dropping from 76,226 to 74,702. Meanwhile, fatal overdoses from psychostimulants (including methamphetamine) and cocaine, rose from 63,991 to 66,169.

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The Drug Overdose Epidemic

Behind the Positive Numbers

- For 2024, New Jersey is on pace to record another significant decline in the number of yearly drug overdose deaths, according to statistics that are tracked and reported weekly.

- Through September, the Garden State recorded 1,465 suspected drug deaths, according to the New Jersey Office of the Chief State Medical Examiner.

- During the first nine months of 2023, New Jersey recorded 1,973 such deaths (26% higher). The count was higher than 2,100 over the first nine months of 2022.

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Key Strategies to Combat the Ongoing Opioid Crisis

Increase Access to Evidence-Based Prevention and Treatment Programs in our Communities

Support Individuals on their Path to and Maintenance to Recovery

Support Data Driven Work and Strengthen System-Wide Infrastructure

- *NJPMP: Critical tool to health abuse and diversion of drugs. Monitor prescription opioid trends and address outliers*
- *Health Information Technology Interoperability Projects: Builds infrastructure among the substance use disorder providers to improve their capacity to support connections to care*

Robust Law Enforcement to Stem the Supply of Illicit Drugs

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NJ Medicaid: North Star Principles and Interoperability Program Goals

North Star Principle 1: Serve people the best way possible.
Benefits, service delivery, quality

- Support EHR implementation and functionality that allow access to necessary data sources
- Utilize NJHIN use cases for timely and coordinated care to promote better health outcomes.

North Star Principle 2: Experiment with the new ways to solve problems.
New approaches, new tech, troubleshooting

- Leveraging existing HIT capabilities and NJHIN adoption.
- Leveraged the SUPPORT Act funding to integrate EHR with the NJPMP

North Star Principle 3: Focus on integrity and real outcomes.
Accountability*, compliance, true metrics and management*

- Promote data-driven improvements through timely reporting and use of data.
- Provide outcomes to funding agencies to assess program successes and anticipate secondary impacts.

North Star Principle 4: Show people we care.
Culture*, compassionate service, managing change*

- Utilize EHR technology to improve patient outcomes and satisfaction.
- Utilize the eConsent Management System to share patient data securely and efficiently.

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NJ Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Programs (PIP)

COMBAT THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC WITH HEALTH IT

EXAMPLES OF HOW HEALTH IT CAN HELP

EHR system integration with PDMPs makes it quick and easy for providers to check PDMP data prior to prescribing.

Smartphone apps can provide convenient and practical tools to help individuals in recovery from substance use disorders.

ePrescribing of controlled substances helps protect against drug misuse and diversion while improving provider workflows.

Telehealth can help expand access to addiction treatment services by providing care remotely through videoconferencing or other modalities.

**Clinical decision support tools in EHRs** can help support appropriate opioid prescribing and improve outcomes.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD PIP)

Behavioral Health (BH PIP)

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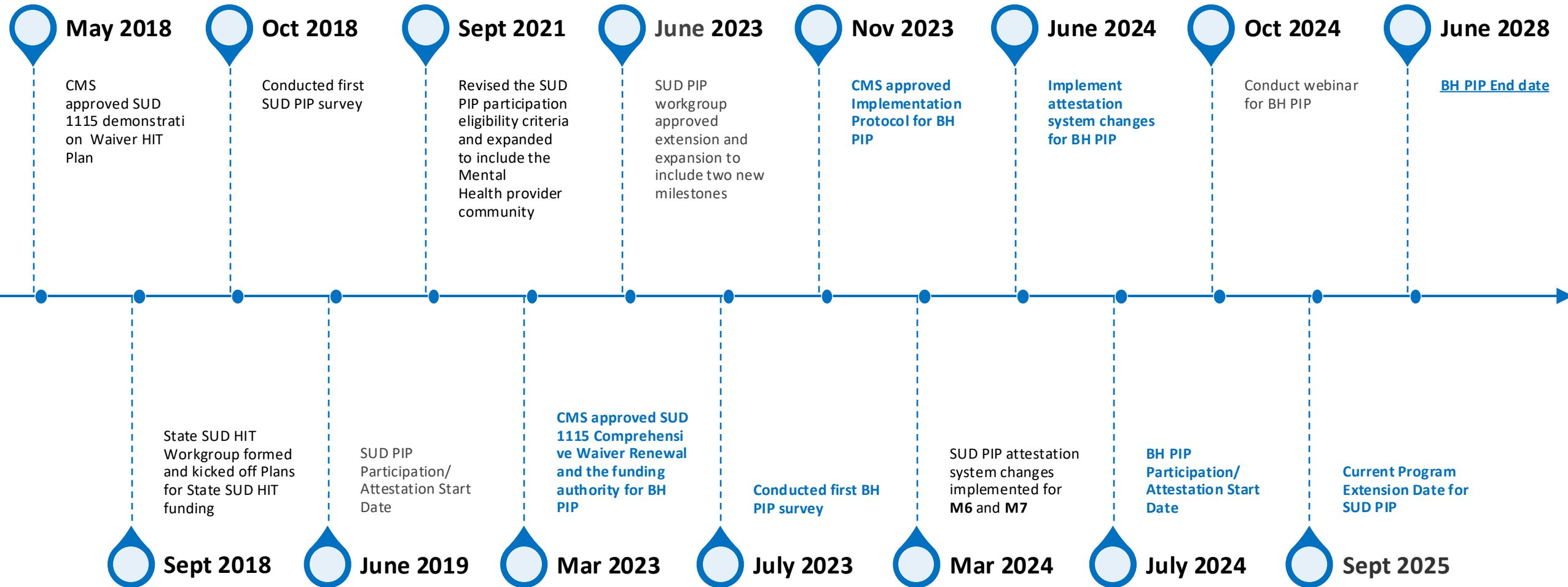An NJIT Corporation

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PI Programs: History

- Governor Murphy advanced $100 million from his Fiscal Year 2019 budget to tackle New Jersey's opioid crisis.

- New Jersey established the Substance Use Disorder Health Information Technology (SUD HIT) Workgroup.

- Administration invests $6 million in Health Information Technology to address the opioid epidemic.

- Workgroup establishes the SUD Promoting Interoperability Program (SUD PIP).

- NJAMHAA conducted a survey and received 165 responses from 230+ SUD providers. 60% of SUD providers reported that they will require new platforms or upgrades

- Federally-matched funding approved by CMS through the 1115 Demonstration Waiver for the Behavioral Health Promoting Interoperability Program (BH PIP)
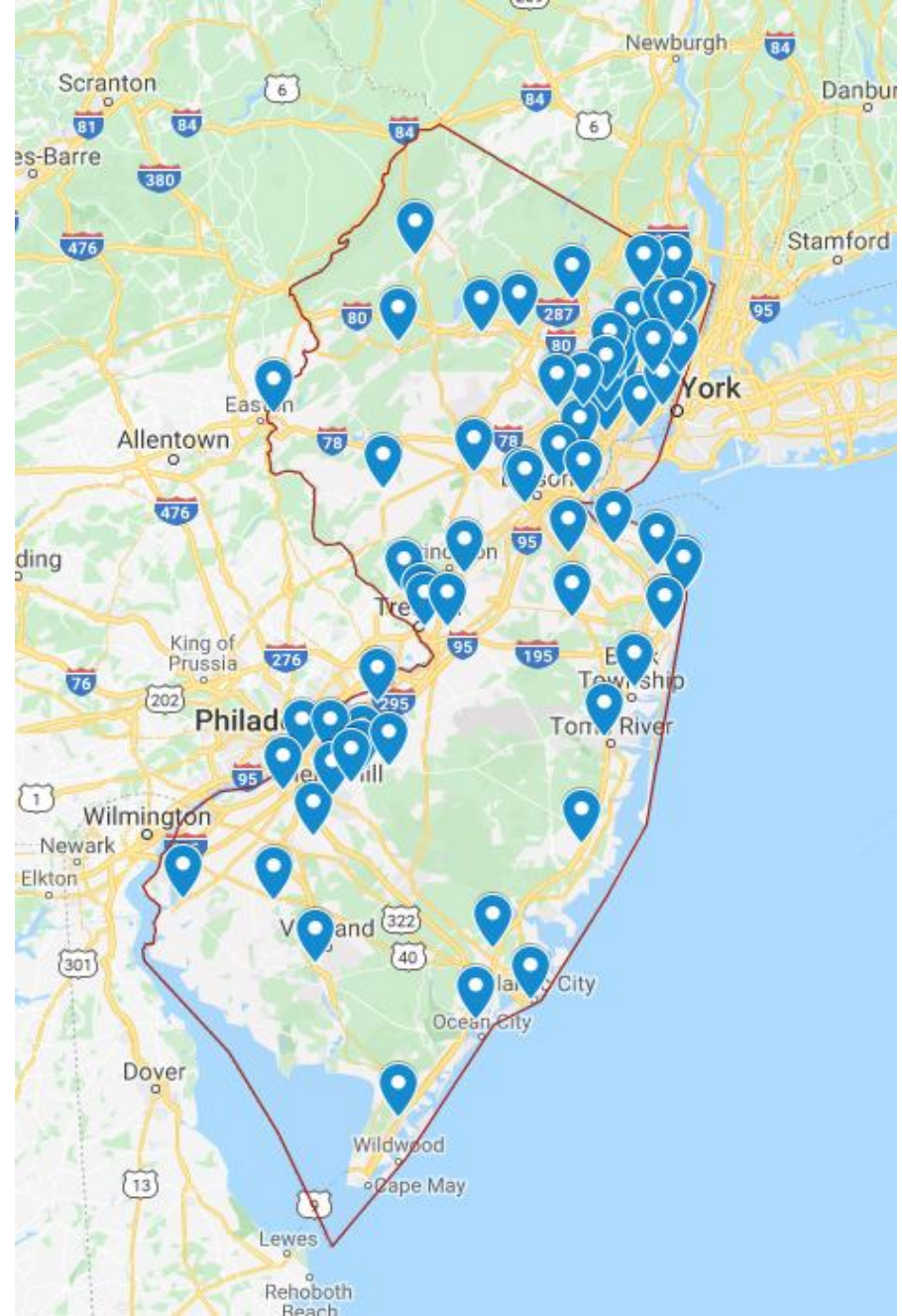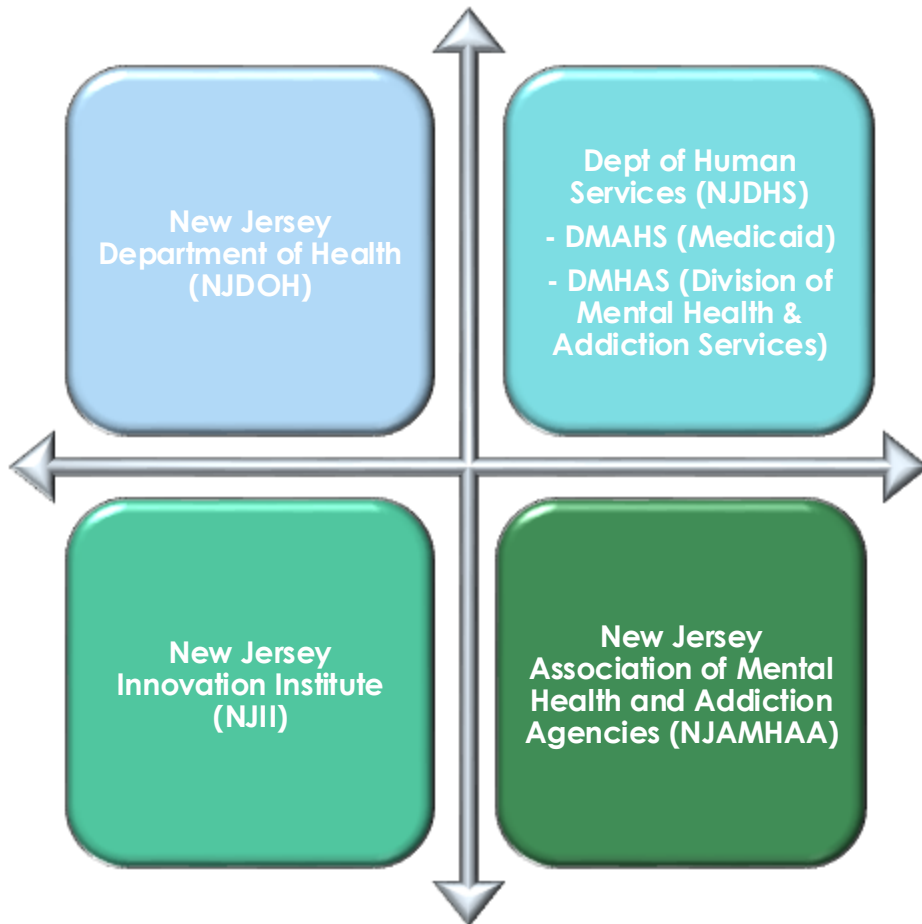
Introducing Behavioral Health (BH) PIP!

- The primary objective of BH PIP is to establish an integrated behavioral health delivery system, improving care quality and coordination across providers.

- Provides funding to qualifying Behavioral Health facilities to help them deploy or upgrade electronic health record technology and provide more effective care.

- Promote integrated behavioral health delivery system that includes providers of all types caring for patients to access clinical information and enhance care quality.

- Leverages and reuses the State Level Repository (SLR) for attestations.

- This innovative initiative is administered by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJDHS), Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), in collaboration with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS).

- The program began in July of 2024 and is projected to be administered for the following five years (through 2028). This is a first-come, first-served program with a defined budget. We encourage participation as soon as possible to secure funding.

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PI Programs: Timeline

May 2018
CMS approved SUD 1115 demonstration Waiver HIT Plan

Oct 2018
Conducted first SUD PIP survey

Sept 2021
Revised the SUD PIP participation eligibility criteria and expanded to include the Mental Health provider community

June 2023
SUD PIP workgroup approved extension and expansion to include two new milestones

Nov 2023
CMS approved Implementation Protocol for BH PIP

June 2024
Implement attestation system changes for BH PIP

Oct 2024
Conduct webinar for BH PIP

June 2028
BH PIP End date

Sept 2018
State SUD HIT Workgroup formed and kicked off Plans for State SUD HIT funding

June 2019
SUD PIP Participation/ Attestation Start Date

Mar 2023
CMS approved SUD 1115 Comprehensive Waiver Renewal and the funding authority for BH PIP

July 2023
Conducted first BH PIP survey

Mar 2024
SUD PIP attestation system changes implemented for **M6** and **M7**

July 2024
BH PIP Participation/ Attestation Start Date

Sept 2025
Current Program Extension Date for SUD PIP

PI Programs: Administration & Stakeholders

CMS CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH)

Dept of Human Services (NJDHS)
- DMAHS (Medicaid)
- DMHAS (Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services)

New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII)

New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies (NJAMHAA)

Behavioral Health Organizations

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PI Programs: Participation

Participation at _two_ tiers

Tier 1

Implementing a new Certified EHR Technology (CEHRT)

Tier 2

Upgrading to the required edition of the Office of the National Coordinator for HIT (ONC) Certified EHR Technology (CEHRT)

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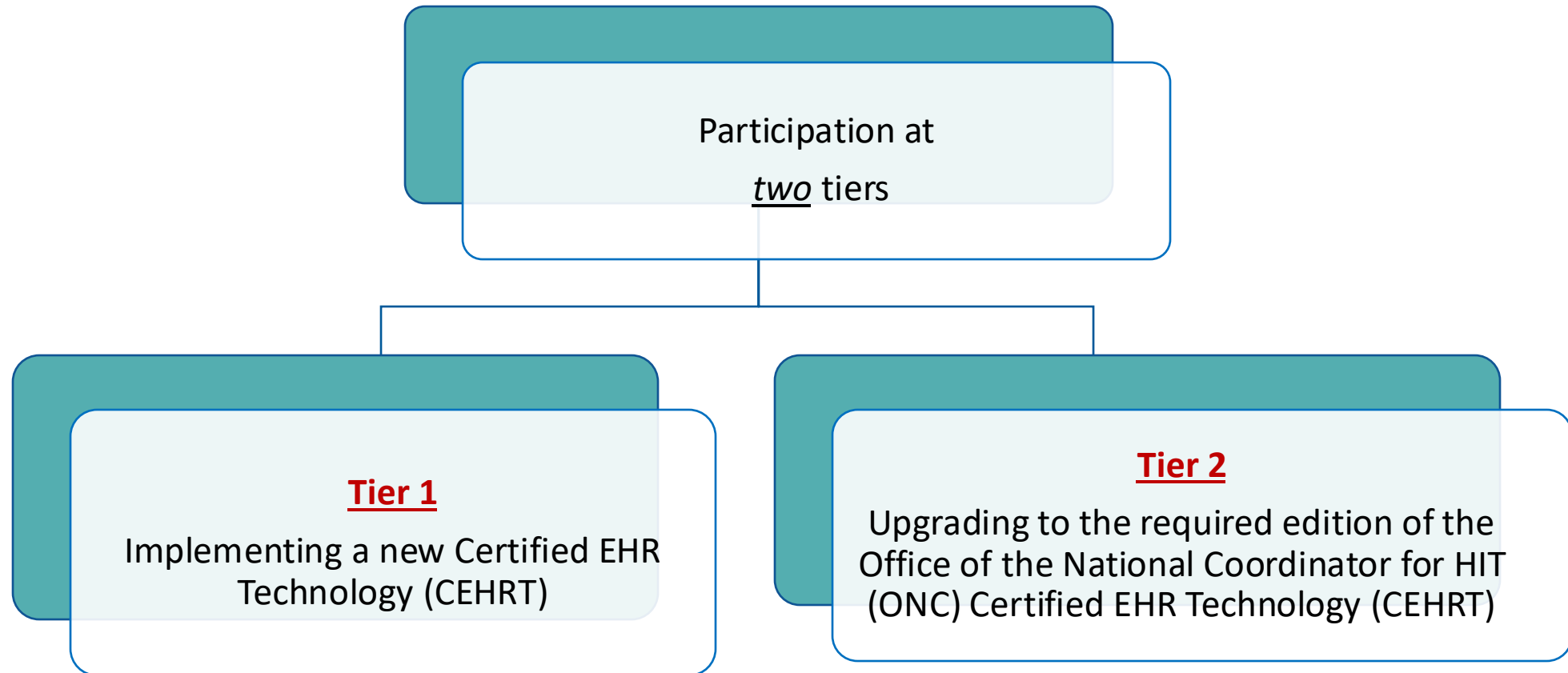
PI Programs: Eligibility Criteria

Both SUD and BH PI Programs are focused on the facility-based participation

Substance Use Disorder PIP

- A non-profit or for-profit entity or governmental entity.

- A Medicaid provider and/or have adjudicated claims from Medicaid.

- Licensed by the Department of Health's Office of Licensing (OOL) to provide SUD treatment prior to the start of services or:

  - Mental Health providers with active pending SUD application.

  - SUD Providers with pending license renewal.

- Have at least one confirmed SUD admissions during the calendar year.

Behavioral Health PIP

- Must be licensed by the Department of Health's Certificate of Need and Facility Licensure (CNL) to provide mental health services at the start of the program.

- Must be a non-profit or for-profit entity or governmental entity.

- Facility must have at least 20% Medicaid patient volume in a consecutive 90-day period within the last 12 months. (CHIP does not count toward patient volume and out of state patient percent shall not exceed the in-state patient %.)

- **The SUD facilities that are currently participating or have participated in the SUD Promoting Interoperability Program will not be permitted to participate in the Behavioral Health Promoting Interoperability Program.**

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SUD/BH PI Programs: Why Participate?

Both SUD and BH PI Programs are focused on facility-based participation

Substance Use Disorder PIP

- Up to $52,500 in incentive funding to invest in IT infrastructure

- Assistance in connecting siloed systems of care

- Adoption of EHRs will allow for efficient capture, analysis, reporting and sharing of clinical and operational data

- Ability to participate in the state's Health Information Exchange, NJ Health Information Network (NJHIN) that facilitates the secure sharing of patient information across different healthcare settings

- Reduce information blocking between healthcare providers and public health monitoring systems and registries

- Increased quality of care for patients

Behavioral Health PIP

- Up to $47,500 in incentive funding to invest in IT infrastructure

- Assistance in connecting siloed systems of care

- Adoption of EHRs will allow for efficient capture, analysis, reporting and sharing of clinical and operational data

- Ability to participate in the state's Health Information Exchange, NJ Health Information Network (NJHIN) that facilitates the secure sharing of patient information across different healthcare settings

- Ability to integrate the statewide database such as New Jersey Prescription Monitoring Program (NJPMP) into the clinical workflows
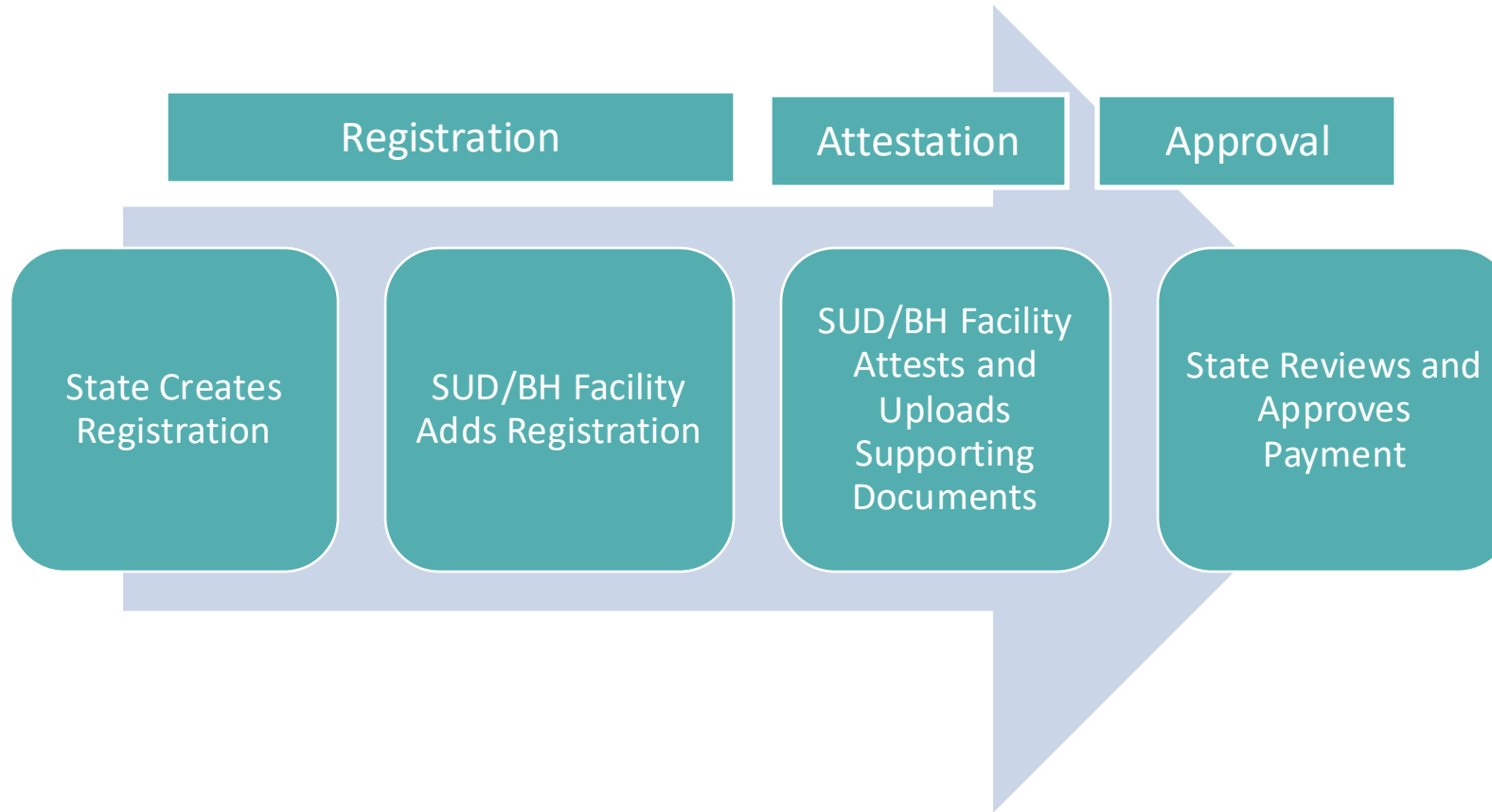
- Increased quality of care for patients

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PI Programs: Milestones & Incentive Payment Structure

SUD PI Program	
Milestones defined	**Incentive Payment (up to $52,500)**
Milestone 1 (Participation)	$5,000
Milestone 2 (Go-live)/	$20,000 – tier 1
Milestone 2 (EHR Upgrade)	$7,500 – tier 2
Milestone 3 (HIE Connection)	$7,500
Milestone 4 (PMP Connection)	$5,000
Milestone 5 (NJSAMS Connection)*	$5,000
Milestone 6 (Behavioral Health electronic consent management system)	$5,000
Milestone 7 (Integrated Telehealth Services)	$5,000

BH PI Program	
Milestones defined	**Incentive Payment (up to $47,500)**
Milestone 1 (Participation)	$5,000
Milestone 2 (Go-live)/	$20,000 – tier 1
Milestone 2 (EHR Upgrade)	$7,500 – tier 2
Milestone 3 (HIE Connection)	$7,500
Milestone 4 (PMP Connection)*	$5,000
Milestone 5 (Behavioral Health electronic consent management system)	$5000
Milestone 6 (Integrated Telehealth Services)	$5000

* New Jersey state have the option to revise the milestones to another quality metric based on available HIT capacity

NJMMIS Attestation Workflow Process

Registration — **Attestation** — **Approval**

- State Creates Registration
- SUD/BH Facility Adds Registration
- SUD/BH Facility Attests and Uploads Supporting Documents
- State Reviews and Approves Payment

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Leverage and Reuse

Access requires NJMMIS username and password

Provider Incentive Payment System

Welcome to the Provider Incentive Payment System

Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program

The New Jersey Medicaid Promoting Interoperability (PI) Program provides incentive payments to eligible professionals and eligible hospitals that can demonstrate they are meaningfully using certified EHR technology. The Promoting Interoperability Program is designed to support providers in this period of Health IT transition and instill the use of EHRs in meaningful ways to help our nation improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of patient health care.

Additional Resources: For information on the Promoting Interoperability Program nationwide, provider eligibility and registration rules, a list of EHR technology that is certified for this program, specification sheets with additional information on each Meaningful Use objective, and other general resources that will help you complete state level registration and attestation, please visit CMS website

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Promoting Interoperability Program

The Substance Use Disorder Promoting Interoperability Program is a milestone-based incentive program designed by the State of New Jersey to encourage Behavioral Health providers/facilities caring for SUD individuals to implement and/or upgrade existing electronic health record technology.

Additional Resources: For information on the SUD Promoting Interoperability Program, please visit SUD PIP website

Behavioral Health (BH) Promoting Interoperability Program

The Behavioral Health Promoting Interoperability Program is a milestone-based incentive program designed by the State of New Jersey to encourage Behavioral Health providers/facilities to implement and/or upgrade existing electronic health record technology.
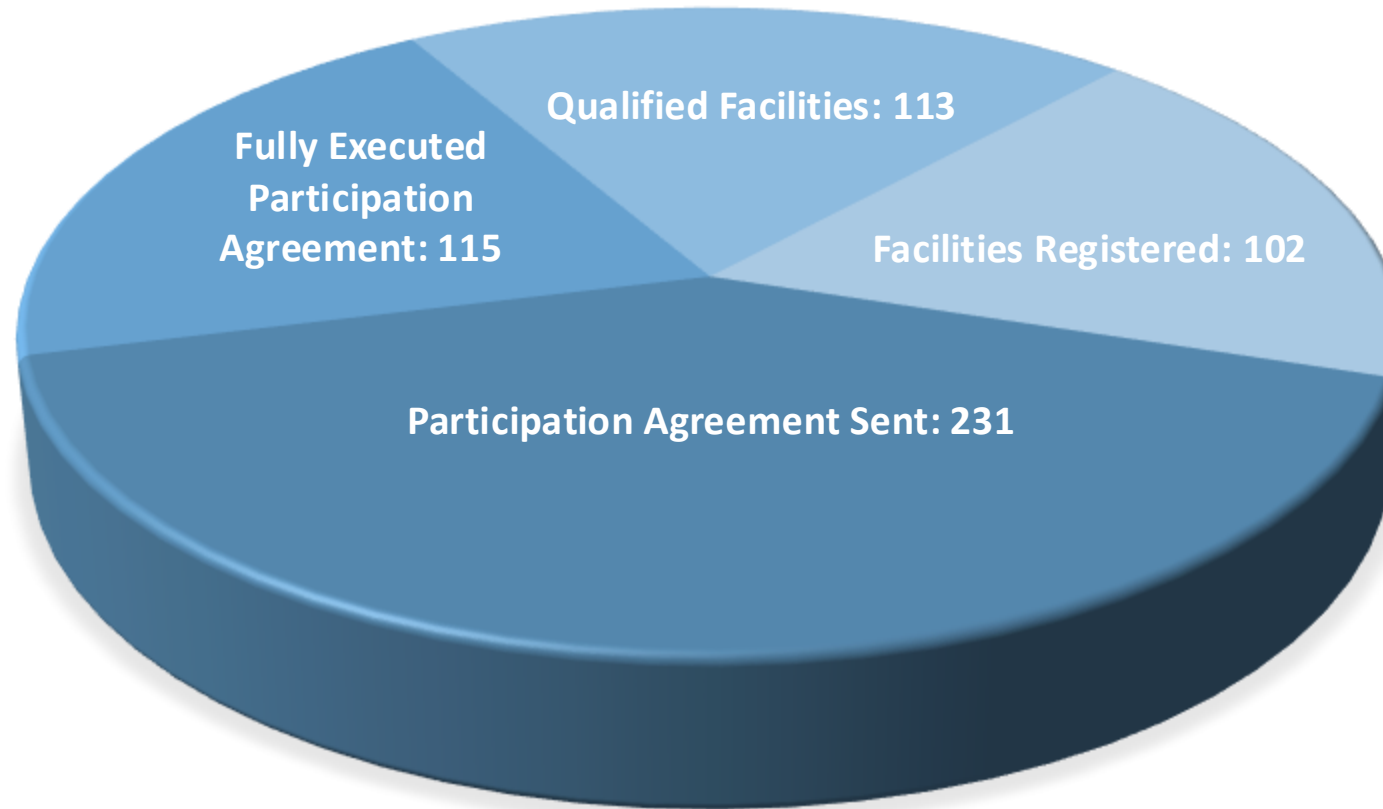
Additional Resources: For information on the BH Promoting Interoperability Program, please visit BH PIP website

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What can NJII do for PI Program Participants?

- NJII helps to recruit and qualify SUD/BH facilities to participate in the SUD and BH Promoting Interoperability Programs.

- NJII acts as a liaison between SUD/BH facilities and the State.

- Educates all SUD/BH Facilities about program milestones, deliverables, and deadlines

- Assists in meeting all requirements to complete milestones.

- Assists in the collection of proof documents for attestations

- Assists in the submission of attestations to the New Jersey Medicaid Management Information System (NJMMIS) portal.

- Coordinates incentive payments for SUD/BH facilities. Incentive payments will be made after milestone achievement and are disbursed through NJII.

- Partners with the New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies (NJAMHAA).

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SUD PI Program: Participation Highlights

Total # of Participating Clinicians: 2,570

Qualified Facilities: 113

Fully Executed
Participation
Agreement: 115

Facilities Registered: 102

Participation Agreement Sent: 231

■ Total Participation Agreement sent　　　■ Fully Executed Participation Agreement
■ Qualified Facilities　　　■ Facilities Registered

(AS OF SEPTEMBER 2024)

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SUD PI Program: Milestone Payments

Total of $2,497,500 in milestone payments have been disbursed to SUD facilities as of September 2024.

of Attestations Completed

Milestone	# of Attestations Completed
MILESTONE 1	~98
MILESTONE 2	~75
MILESTONE 3	~48
MILESTONE 4	~51
MILESTONE 5	(In Pilot)
MILESTONE 6	(In Pilot)
MILESTONE 7	~6

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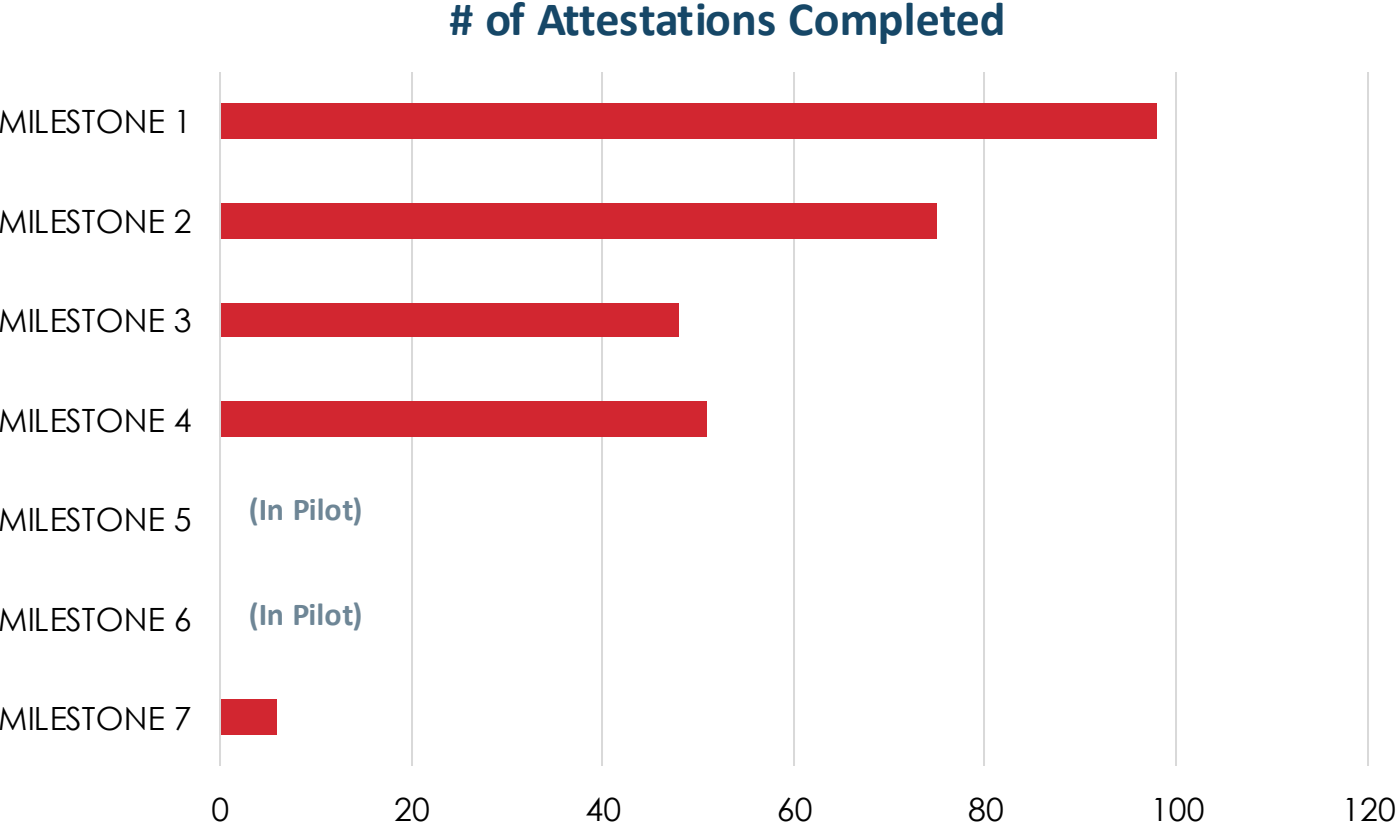
PI Programs: Outlook

- State has extended the SUD PIP until September 2025, integrating two more milestones for electronic Consent Management System and Telehealth as part of the program's expansion.

- SUPPORT Act funding has been leveraged to implement NJPMP Statewide Gateway license. This will allow the facilities to integrate the NJPMP within their clinical workflows at <u>no cost</u>.

- Federal match through:

  - 1115 Demonstration Waiver.

  - Home and Community-Based Services support (SMD # 21-003).

  - The state began accepting the attestations for BH PIP starting <u>July 2024</u>.

SUD PI Program Success Stories and Testimonials

NewBridge Services

Our participation in the SUD PIP Program has so far led NewBridge Providers to receive an ADT alert on a client who was hospitalized for medical reasons. Our Providers look forward to continuing to receive notifications from hospitals as this enables them to connect with the client in a timely manner and provide appropriate mental health care after a hospitalization. The availability of a client portal in our ONC Certified EHR has enabled clients to not only communicate with our Eligible Providers regarding their medications and other health-related matters, but also to view their crucial health information such as past and current vital signs, details of their prescriptions, and dates of past psychiatric appointments. Having the e-prescribing system and the NJ Prescription Monitoring Program integrated in our EHR has enabled our Eligible Providers to monitor clients' medications effectively, to counsel them, and to prescribe appropriately controlled substances.

Preferred Behavioral Health Group

The SUD Program allowed us to upgrade our current EHR, enhancing the treatment we provide to our consumers and clients. NJII staff have been an invaluable resource to Preferred Behavioral Health Group throughout the entire process. They made the implementation and attestation uncomplicated and were extremely responsive to any questions we had.

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SUD PI Program Success Stories and Testimonials

New Life Recovery

I acquired my facility in Northern New Jersey in early 2018. When the lockdowns happened, it took us time to readjust. We lost half our program immediately because we couldn't counsel adolescents online effectively. Eventually we transitioned the adult half of the program to virtual but not after months of turbulence. The SUD PIP Milestones kept us open more than once. This last milestone will give us enough breathing room to finish our move from Pompton Lakes to a newer office in Montville and greatly improve the client experience and treatment.

Catholic Charities of Trenton

The NJII team has been instrumental in our success with the Substance Use Disorder Interoperability Program. Their assistance helped guide our organization to successfully attest for all available Milestones in the program to date. In addition, the NJII team provides insight with regard to future opportunities so we can prepare our systems and workflows to achieve future Milestones. The NJII team provides technical assistance and personalized step by step guidance that make the attestation process easy and understandable.

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Questions

Ready to get started?

NJII Healthcare Website: NJII Healthcare | Quality Improvement, Interoperability, Innovation

NJHIN: nj.gov/health/njhin/   **NJHIN Email:** njhin.servicedesk@njii.com

NJII SUD- PIP Website: Substance Use Disorder Promoting Interoperability (SUD-PIP) - NJII

NJII BH-PIP Website: Behavioral Health Promoting Interoperability (BH-PIP) - NJII

SUD PIP Team Email: sudpip@njii.com   **BH PIP Team Email:** bhpip@njii.com

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For more information and how to get involved:

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THANK YOU!

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