



Quality Partners of Rhode Island, at its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Healthcare Quality in Rhode Island, recognized Tricia M. Leddy, the Deputy Director of MHRH, as the recipient of the prestigious Public Policy – Healthcare Advocacy Award for her outstanding accomplishments in the area of quality healthcare.

Chris Koller, Rhode Island’s first Health Insurance Commissioner, was honored with presenting the award, noting that she is a tireless statewide advocate, whose attributes encompass energy, passion and above all excellence. Upon acceptance of the award, Tricia noted that she can “relate [her] experience to seeing the results of having quality at the center of a health program.” She also stated “especially in the times of a budget crisis and escalating costs, quality improvement is the key. . .transforming services to focus on quality improvement goals results in improved quality of care, improved quality of life and control of health care costs.”

Tricia Leddy is the Deputy Director of the RI Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals (MHRH), RI’s mental health and public hospital authority. She has been at MHRH since June, 2006, and is responsible for administration of Eleanor Slater Hospital, a 350 bed Long Term Care Hospital, and the Division of Developmental Disabilities. Tricia also serves on the faculty of Brown University Medical School as a Teaching Associate in the Department of Community Health.

From 1994 to 2006, Tricia implemented and administered RItE Care, Rhode Island’s nationally recognized Medicaid managed care program for low income and uninsured families, which operates under an 1115 Research and Demonstration waiver, has an enrollment of 120,000 members, and a budget in excess of \$400M. Tricia was also responsible for implementing RItE Share, RI’s premium assistance program, enrolling children with special health care needs into RItE Care, and developing a managed dental benefit program for children.

Tricia served as the Project Director for federal and foundation grants focused on implementing statewide health care reform, which resulted in passage of health care reform legislation in 2006, creating an affordable health insurance plan for small employers, and requiring provider-level transparency for price and quality of health care.

As well as being the recipient of this much deserved award, Tricia was also named a Public Official of the Year by Governing Magazine in 2004. Please join me in extending our congratulations on her exceptional and renowned service in the area of quality health care.

*Article compiled by MHRH Employee Nicole Boisvert*