

# MISSION

*The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to leading evidence-based, collaborative initiatives to improve the health of Louisiana residents.*



## WORKING TOGETHER for a HEALTHIER STATE

### OVERVIEW

The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum was formally recognized in 2007 by the State Legislature to plan, promote and lead quality improvement initiatives in our state. As a neutral convener led by a volunteer board, the organization's initial focus was the transition to patient-centered models of care delivery to improve quality and outcomes while reducing costs. This focus quickly expanded to include other quality improvement measures and an emphasis on the collection and analysis of trusted, actionable health care data as well as outreach and education to support patient engagement and empowerment.

By 2008, it had also identified health IT as a major need in Louisiana. In 2010, the organization was awarded \$18.4 million in federal grant funds to establish a Regional Extension Center to assist the state's health care providers in the adoption and meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs), and to implement and administer the Louisiana Health Information Exchange (LaHIE).

The Quality Forum also adopted the Louisiana Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (LaPOST) program as one of its initiatives in 2010. Approved as Act 954 in the 2010 regular session of the State Legislature, LaPOST is an evidence-based model designed to improve end-of-life care for those with serious, advanced illnesses.

### STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- ▶ **Health Care Affordability**  
*Collaborate with employers to more effectively move the health care discussion and influence change with providers, health plans and other partners to address health care affordability, quality and safety*
- ▶ **Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (DPS&C)**  
*Implement and integrate a certified EHR system for the department's headquarters, state correctional facilities and eligible providers*
- ▶ **Louisiana Department of Health - Office of Public Health (OPH)**  
*Provide a certified EHR system and ongoing integration/technical support at all parish health units*
- ▶ **Medicaid Provider Outreach**  
*Assist eligible providers with adopting and utilizing certified health IT across the state's health care settings while consulting with providers to continue their participation and promote interoperability*
- ▶ **Quality Improvement/Analytics**  
*Aggregate, analyze and disseminate health care data to guide quality improvements in Louisiana*
- ▶ **Louisiana Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (LaPOST)**  
*Provide advance care planning and improving the quality of end-of-life care for patients with serious, advanced illnesses in Louisiana*
- ▶ **LaPOST Registry**  
*Allow authorized health care professionals to instantly access a single source of LaPOST forms in any care setting via a secure, statewide electronic registry*
- ▶ **Outreach and Education**  
*Present Louisiana residents with information necessary to make positive decisions about their health and health care*

For more information about the Quality Forum, contact us at [info@lhcf.org](mailto:info@lhcf.org).

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