

NEWS RELEASE

**Rhode Island Quality Institute Appoints Three New Members to Board of Directors**

*Klatzker, Marino and Puerini to help lead statewide efforts to improve quality, safety and efficiency of patient care*

**PROVIDENCE, RI, JANUARY 29, 2015** -- Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI) today announced the appointment of three healthcare executive leaders to its Board of Directors.

Appointed to the RIQI Board of Directors are Dale Klatzker, Ph.D., President and CEO, The Providence Center; Peter Marino, President and CEO, Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island; and Dr. Al Puerini, MD, President & CEO of R.I. Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC).

“We are grateful to have these three progressive and innovative Rhode Island healthcare leaders join the RIQI Board of Directors as we work together to achieve the Triple Aim: Better health for all Rhode Islanders, better care, and lower per capita cost,” said Laura Adams, President & CEO, RIQI. “Dale, Peter and Al all bring unique perspective and expertise that will help RIQI align our leading-edge healthcare improvement infrastructure and strategies with needs and opportunities in our community.”

RIQI is a center of collaborative innovation that advances health and healthcare transformation. Its mission is to improve the quality, safety and value of healthcare and share knowledge that advances the field of healthcare improvement. RIQI is a 501c3 non-profit organization founded in 2001 and overseen by a Board of Directors comprised of senior leaders from our community, including CEOs of hospitals, health insurers and employers, along with leaders of consumer groups, academia and government agencies.

About the Appointees:

**Dale K. Klatzker, Ph.D.**  
**President and CEO**  
**The Providence Center**

Dr. Klatzker has been a leader in behavioral healthcare for more than 35 years. Since becoming president and CEO of The Providence Center in 2004, he has transformed the system of care, quality of service delivery and social policy decision making at The Providence Center and the state of Rhode Island. Klatzker’s philosophy has been the catalyst for innovation at The Providence Center – that good care equates to consumers receiving the right amount of consumer-centered, recovery-focused care at the right time and for the right duration; that providing a full continuum of community-based behavioral health services will improve care and decrease costly emergency room visits and unnecessary inpatient admissions; and that the whole person should be treated through integrated and coordinated primary and behavioral healthcare. Klatzker is at the forefront of establishing programs that integrate primary and behavioral healthcare through community partnerships and strategic programming that is consumer-focused rather than funding dependent. His work has been recognized both locally and nationally for his leadership and innovative contributions to the field of behavioral health.

**Peter M. Marino**  
**President and CEO**  
**Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island**

Marino started his tenure at Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island in September 2014. As CEO, he oversees all aspects of the health plan. Before joining Neighborhood he was Director of the Rhode Island Office of Management and Budget. Previously he was the RI Senate Fiscal Advisor, Director of Research and Policy for the Providence-based RDW Group, and Director of Policy and Municipal Affairs for the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council (RIPEC). Mr. Marino serves as an Adjunct Lecturer in Public Policy at Brown University’s

Taubman Center for Public Policy and American Institutions. He holds a Bachelor's in Science degree from James Madison University and a Masters in Public Administration from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

**Al Puerini, Jr., MD**  
**President and CEO**  
**R.I. Primary Care Physicians Corporation**

Dr. Puerini is a board-certified family physician in private practice for over thirty years in Cranston, R.I. Since 1995, he has been President and CEO of R.I. Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC). RIPCPC is composed of 140 primary care physicians in the areas of family medicine, pediatrics and internal medicine.

Dr. Puerini is an influential and innovative clinician who has made significant contributions to RIQI's initiatives over the years including serving on the Health IT Physician Advisory Committee and the committee on Clinical Integration of Behavioral Health and Primary Health. Under his leadership, RIPCPC and RIQI successfully collaborated in 2010 to develop the technical mapping of Direct messaging through a request from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Dr. Puerini sent the first-ever provider-to-provider Direct message in the U.S. in January 2011.

As one of the original five pilot practices of the Chronic Care Sustainability Initiative (CSI) in R.I., Dr. Puerini has been part of a dynamic team that has developed the concept of the Patient Centered Medical Home in over 40 RI medical practices while also designing a new payment model to support primary care offices in the development and deployment of this concept. As President of Polaris Medical Management, a sister company of RIPCPC, he and his staff have built an efficient, user-friendly electronic health record (EHR) designed by member primary care physicians. In addition, Dr. Puerini has been the Head Team Physician for Providence College Athletics for over 25 years providing care for all PC student athletes in 19 sports. He was recently elected Vice-Chair of the Board of Managers of the newly formed ACO, Integra Community Care Network, LLC. The ACO is a ground-breaking partnership between RIPCPC and Care New England.

For more information, including the complete list of RIQI's Board of Directors, visit [www.rigi.org](http://www.rigi.org).

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