



Garden State Equality is proud to share our strong support for the continued investment of RWJBarnabas Health in community-based organizations. As New Jersey's largest LGBTQ+ advocacy and education organization, Garden State Equality has spent more than 20 years advancing health equity, safety, and lived equality for LGBTQ+ individuals and families across the state. Partnerships like the one we share with RWJBarnabas Health are critical to ensuring that our communities receive affirming, accessible, and culturally responsive care.

Our missions are deeply aligned. RWJBarnabas Health's commitment to health equity and community wellness directly complements Garden State Equality's work to reduce disparities, expand access to affirming healthcare, and improve outcomes for LGBTQ+ communities—particularly youth, transgender individuals, and communities of color who face disproportionate barriers to care. Through this partnership, Garden State Equality has been able to deliver provider trainings, health equity education, and community-based programming that strengthens trust, reduces stigma, and connects individuals to life-saving resources.

Support from RWJBarnabas Health has enabled Garden State Equality to expand its reach statewide, deepen collaborations with healthcare providers, and implement trauma-informed programs that address mental health, wellness, and preventive care. Together, we have supported initiatives that empower LGBTQ+ individuals to navigate healthcare systems with confidence and dignity, while equipping providers with the tools needed to deliver affirming care.

Without continued investment in community partnerships, organizations like Garden State Equality would face significant challenges in sustaining and scaling this vital work. Reduced support would limit our ability to reach vulnerable populations and respond effectively to the growing demand for affirming health services across New Jersey.

We are deeply grateful for RWJBarnabas Health's partnership and leadership in advancing health equity. Continued investment in community-based organizations is essential to building healthier, more inclusive communities, and we are honored to stand alongside RWJBarnabas Health in this shared commitment to care, dignity, and equity for all.

Sincerely,

Erin Baskin Bradshaw  
Senior Director of Development & Communications