## A YEAR OF PROGRESS & PROMISE A WORD FROM PRESIDENT & CEO LISA ASARE



As we reflect on the first year of the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority (NJMIHIA)'s accomplishments, I am filled with pride and optimism. This inaugural year marks a significant milestone in our mission to improve maternal and infant health across our state, and we have made strides toward creating lasting, meaningful change.

Under the leadership of Governor Phil Murphy and First Lady Tammy Murphy, we set out with a bold vision: to drive innovation, reduce health disparities, and ensure that every mother and infant in New Jersey has the opportunity to thrive. One year into this journey, we have seen the power of collaboration, the importance of evidence-based solutions, and the impact of community-centered care.

Throughout this year, we have worked tirelessly to build strong partnerships with healthcare providers, community organizations, policymakers, and advocates. We've listened to the voices and lived experiences of those directly affected by health disparities. We are designing and implementing strategies to improve access to care, address social determinants of health, and foster equitable outcomes for all. Our progress in 2024 has been both impactful and encouraging. However, we recognize that this is just the beginning. The challenges facing maternal and infant health are complex, and the road ahead requires continued dedication and innovation.

In the coming year, we are committed to deepening our efforts and pushing the boundaries of what is possible to ensure that every mother and child in New Jersey is supported, empowered, and given the resources needed to thrive. I extend my deepest gratitude to our partners, staff, and all those who have contributed to our work in this first year. Together, we are creating a future where every pregnancy is celebrated, every birth is safe, and every family can flourish.

**Thank you** to all those who made this journey possible and will continue bringing our mission to life for generations to come. I am excited to continue working to build a healthier and more equitable future for all New Jersey families.