

Governor's Behavioral Health and Wellness Council

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CHALLENGE

Hospital ERs are overcrowded
with patients who have mental
health or substance abuse issues
NOT medical issues.

CONSEQUENCES

- ▶ ERs are not designed to provide sustained mental health or substance abuse treatment.
 - Patients with mental health diagnoses don't get the appropriate care they need in the appropriate place or in the appropriate time.
 - The general patient population has reduced access to ER and other hospital services.
 - Health care costs increase throughout the entire health care delivery system.

PRIMARY CAUSE -

Overcrowding of Mental Health Patients in the ER

The issue is not driven by a lack of inpatient psychiatric beds—

but rather by a lack of:

- Funding to access these beds
- Wrap-around services for mental health support

Adult psychiatric beds

(NOTE: Does not include pediatric or geropsychiatric beds)

- ▶ Private free-standing psychiatric facilities
 - Total beds: 491
 - Beds under construction: 52
 - Beds available: 165 (based on average unoccupied rate)

- ▶ Acute care inpatient adult psychiatric beds
 - Total beds: 62
 - Beds under construction: 6
 - Beds available: 21 (based on average unoccupied rate)

- ▶ State facilities
 - Total licensed beds: 359
 - Staffed beds: 220
 - Beds available: 49 (based on average occupied rate)

TOTAL AVAILABILITY ON ANY GIVEN DAY – 235 BEDS

NOTE: Does not include 139 additional State beds that would be available if staffed to the licensed bed level

SOLUTIONS: Bed Access

- ▶ State contract
 - Private psychiatric hospitals
 - Acute care hospitals
- ▶ Associated challenges

SOLUTIONS: Wrap-around Services

- ▶ Evaluate current structure of State mental health delivery system to best meet patients' needs.
 - Increase POU capacity
- ▶ Establish transition support beds
 - Help address needs of homeless patients
- ▶ Pursue CMS EMTALA waiver to operate 24/7 urgent care mental health facility
 - Restructure or relocate facility to meet CMS requirements if needed
- ▶ Use State cost savings for wrap-around support services

SOLUTIONS: Wrap-Around Services

- ▶ OSCaR (One System of Care and Resources)
 - Model to create a continuum of care for mental health including pre-care, inpatient care, and post outpatient services