



Joint Subcommittee to Study  
Mental Health Services  
in the  
Twenty-First Century

*LEO ECO/TDO Work Group*

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# LEO ECO/TDO Workgroup Requests



- ED Boarding Trends at Community Hospitals
- Workforce Needs at Community Hospitals

# VHHA Behavioral Health Emergency Department Survey



- Most ED boarding data is collected cumulatively, BH-only data is not readily available.
- The BH ED survey covered:
  - Pre-pandemic (October 2019 – March 2020)
  - Current period (December 2020 – April 2021)
  - Number of Patients Boarding (adult, child, adolescent)
    - 4 - 8 hours
    - 9 - 24 hours
    - 25 – 72 hours
    - 72+ hours

# ED Boarding Trends



- Most BH patients' ED wait times fell within 4-8 hours or 9-24 hours.
- Children boarded the least amount of time.
- Adults boarded the most amount of time.
- Adolescents had the highest percentage of boarding times that fell within 25-72 hours.
- Across all age groups, the greatest number of boarded patients fell within 9-24 hours.

# ED Boarding Trends



- C&A Hospital Example:
  - On average, ED boarding days have increased by 2.0 days between October 2019 - June 2021 (vol. & invol.).
  - Overall, ED visits have increased by 60% between March 2020 – March 2021 (primary MH Dx).

# Workforce Needs/Costs Health System Example



- Hospital #1 (Adolescents):
  - Add 24 beds | 23 staff (RN, BHT, 2 physicians) = \$4.3 M
- Hospital #2 (Adolescents):
  - Add 16 beds | 19 staff (1 physician) = \$2.2 M
- Hospital #3 & #4 (Adults):
  - Add 18 beds | 15 staff (1 physician) = \$2.0 M
- TOTAL BEDS: 40 Adolescents + 18 Adults = **58**
- TOTAL COST: \$6.5 M Adolescents + \$2.0 M Adults = **\$8.5 M**

# Staff Rates



Behavioral Health Tech = 32.50 /hour

Registered Nurse = 85.00/hour

Locum Physician = 300.00/hour

Employed Physician = 168.27/hour



# Questions?

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