

# **Emergency Psychiatric Care: A Community Crisis**

**The LIP Council**

**December 11, 2006**

**The Florida Council for  
Community Mental Health**

# The Issue

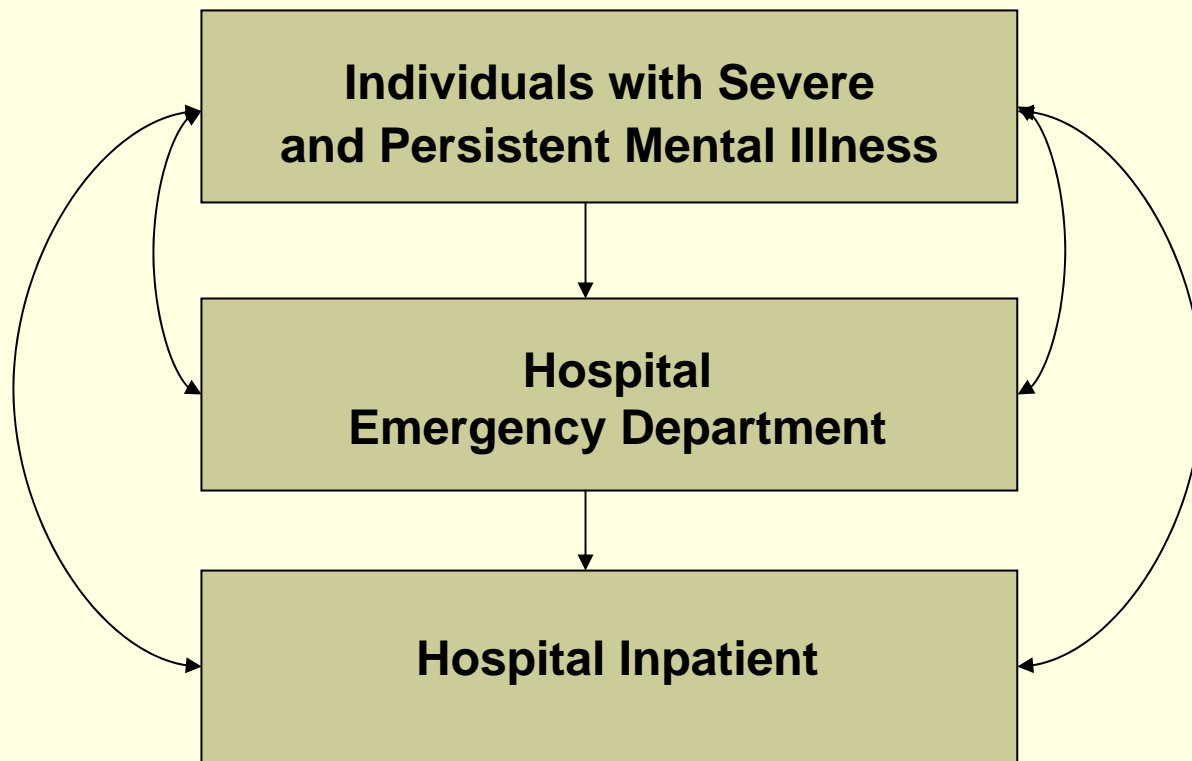
- **7.1 million ED visits in Florida; 1.3 million resulted in hospital admissions (2004).**
- **Between 1994-2004, ED visits in Florida grew by 40.9%; the rate per 1000 grew by 12.9%.**
- **Florida's rank on access to emergency care: C- [41<sup>st</sup> in nation]; overall Florida ED Rank: C-.**
- **ED use by those with psychiatric/substance abuse disorders constitutes a significant and growing burden on hospital EDs.**
- **In a 2004 ACEP survey, 60% of physicians reported that the increase in psychiatric ED patients is negatively affecting access to emergency medical care for all patients; causing longer wait times; fueling patient frustration; limiting the availability of hospital staff; and decreasing the overall availability of ED beds.**
- **Significant predictors of high ED utilization: prior number of ED visits, prior number of hospitalizations, and history of depression, psychoses, alcohol abuse, and homelessness.**
- **At a 6.4% prevalence rate, Florida's EDs treat an estimated 1,245 patients with psychiatric disorders every day or more than 454,000 visits/year.**

# Factors Affecting ED Use

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- **Lack of Community Based Treatment**
- **Lack of Alternative Emergency Care Sites/Models**
- **Homelessness/Lack of Stable Housing**
- **Frequent Flyers – SPMI**
- **ED “Revolving Door” – Lack of Post Discharge Services**
- **Co-morbid Conditions; Co-occurring Disorders**

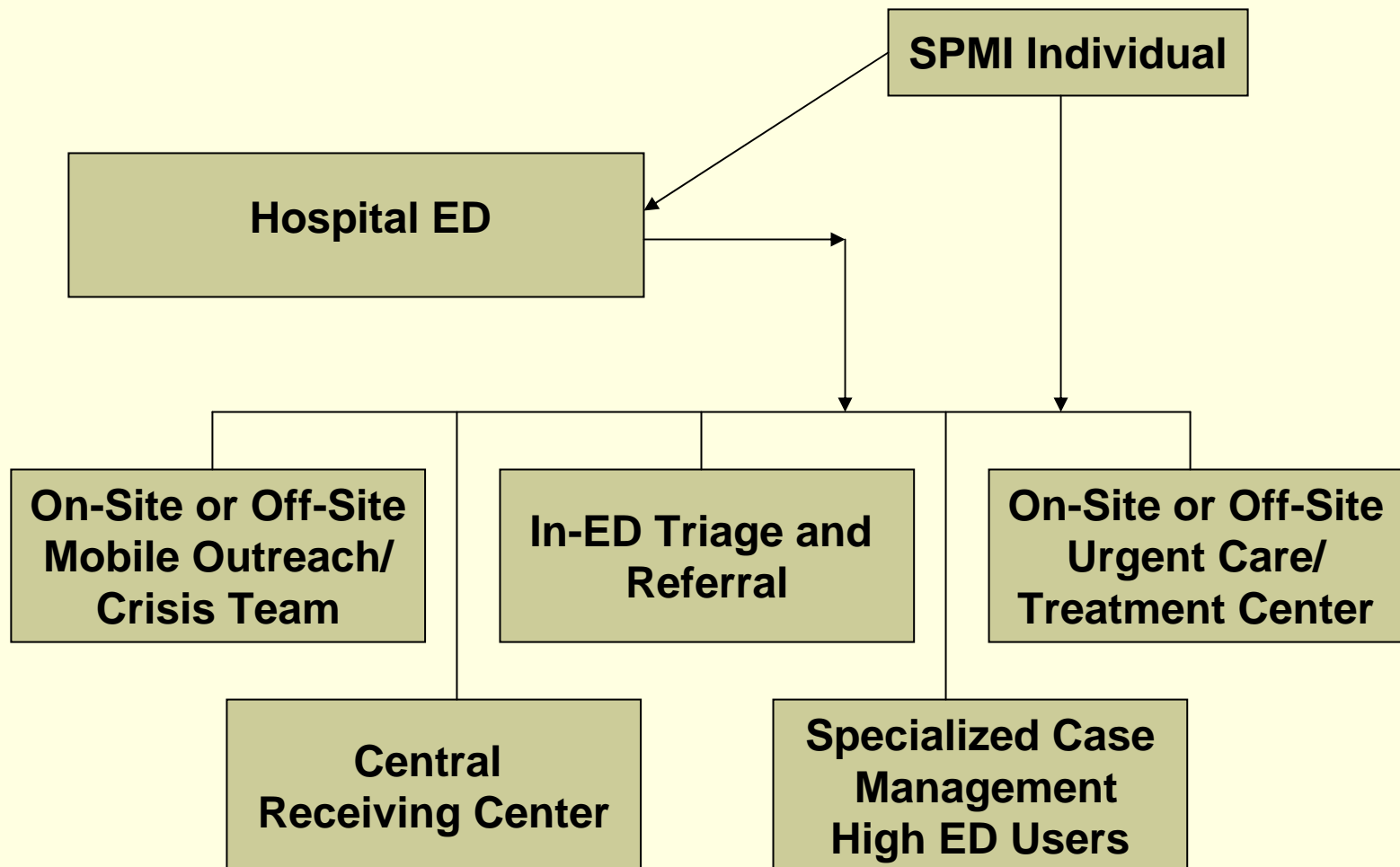
# A Growing Crisis



**Recurring, Expensive Care at the Wrong Place**

# A Psychiatric Emergency Response System

## Hospital ED Referral and Diversion



# Model Programs

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- **San Francisco General Hospital Frequent User Program/ED Case Management Program/Crisis Resolution Team**
- **Boston Health Care for the Homeless Project**
- **Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Programs (Maryland, New York)**
- **Psychiatric Emergency Response Team/Services (Multiple Sites)**
- **Orlando Community Receiving Center**
- **Mobile Crisis Teams (Multiple Sites)**
- **Crisis Care Center (San Antonio)**
- **Assertive Community Treatment (Multiple Sites)**

# Recommendation

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- **Establish Psychiatric Emergency Response Pilots Using Small Portion of LIP Funds**
- **\$2.5 Million – 2-3 Sites**
- **Hospital-County-Community Mental Health Agency Partnerships**
- **Goals: (1) Reduce Unnecessary, Uncompensated ED Use by SPMI Population and (2) Reduce ED Crowding**