

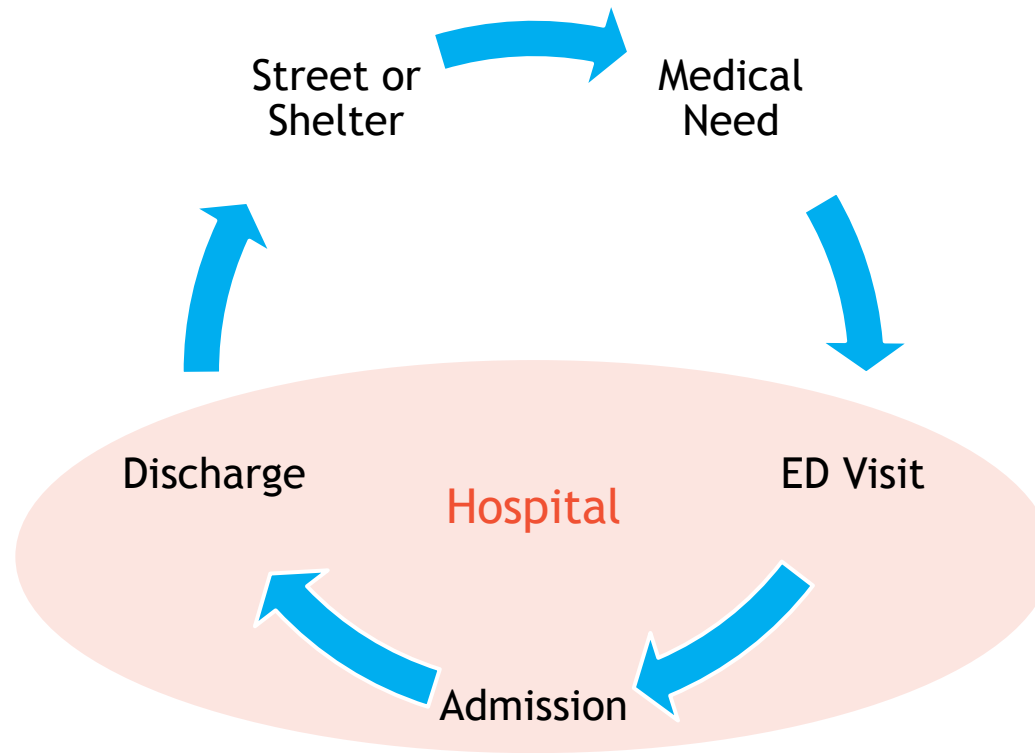
Health Care for the Homeless: Considerations for Hospitals

Janelle Schrag, MPH

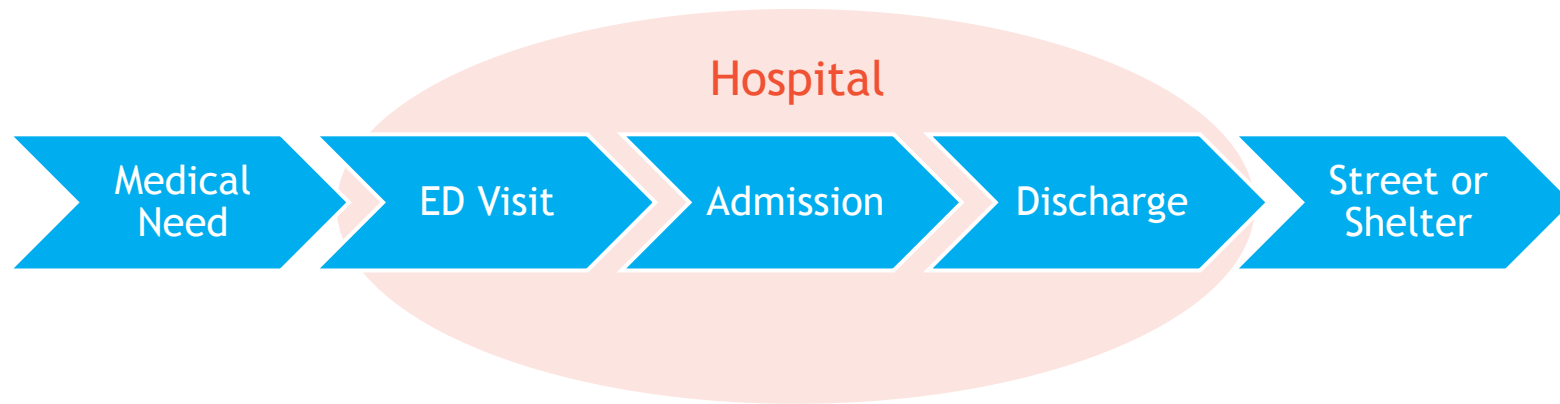


AMERICA'S
ESSENTIAL
HOSPITALS

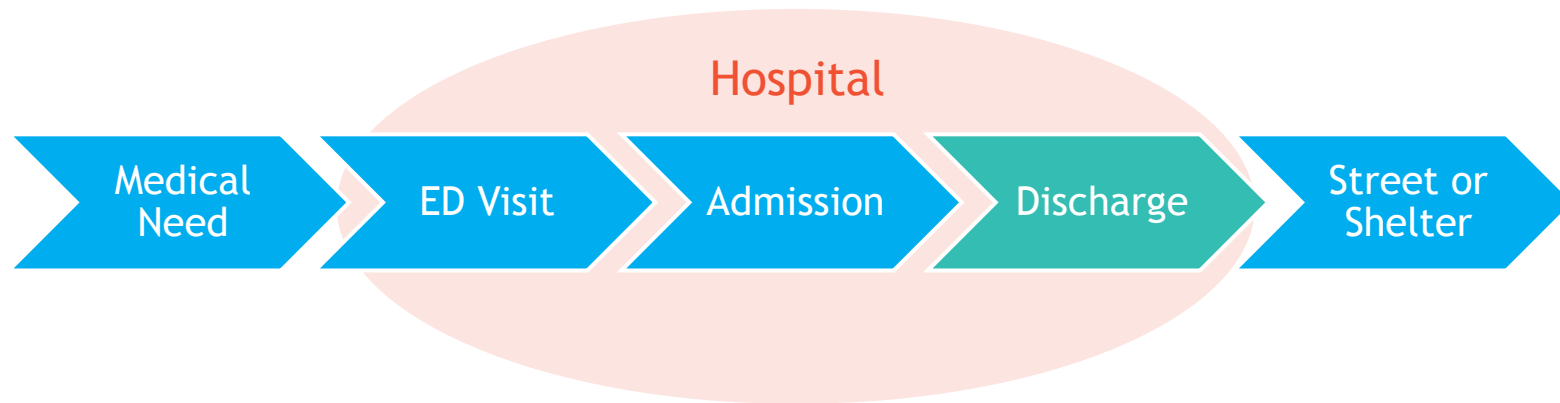
The Role of Essential Hospitals



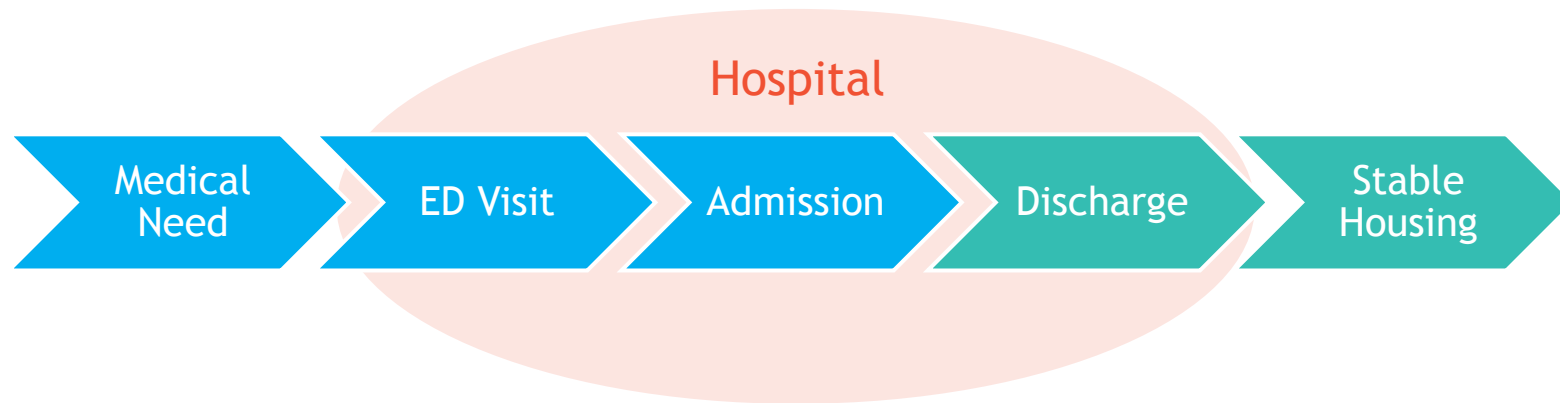
The Role of Essential Hospitals



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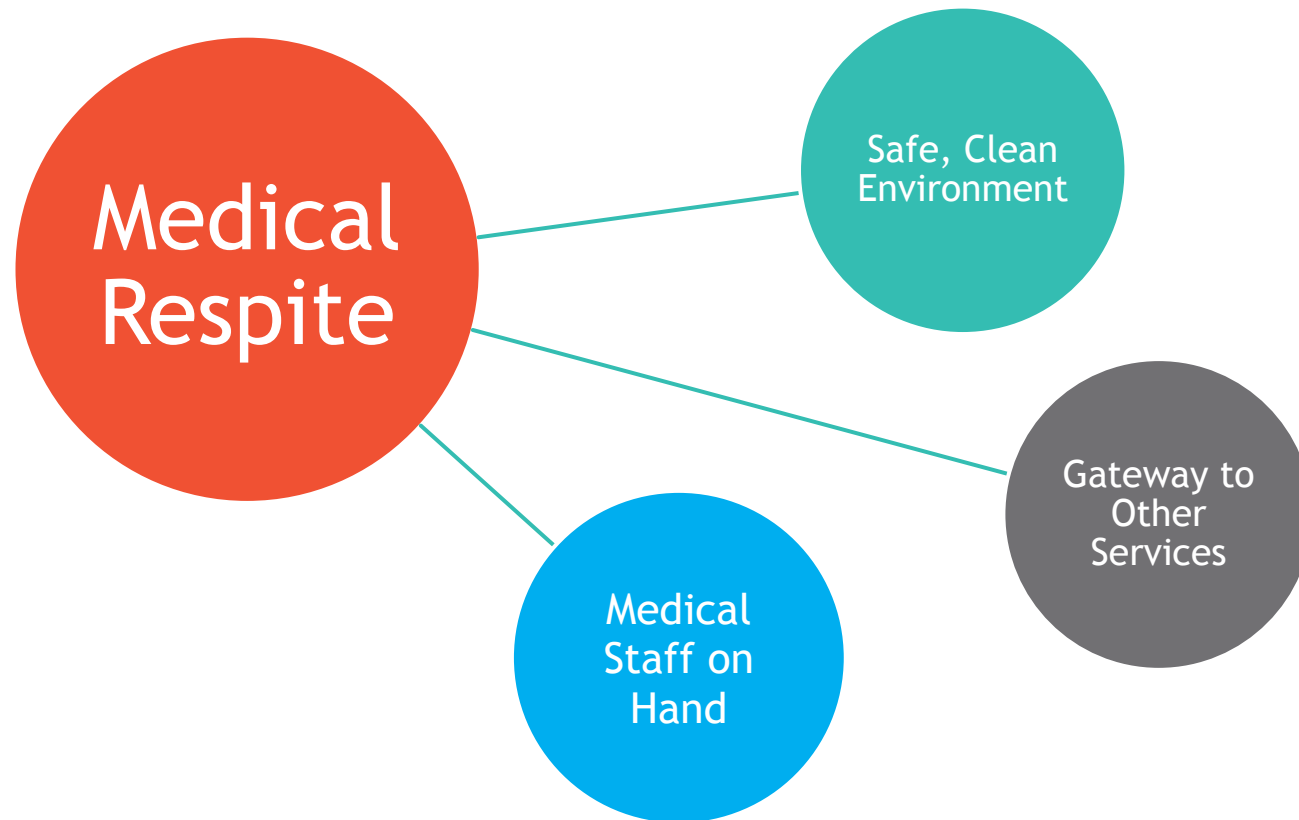
The Role of Essential Hospitals



Challenges with the Discharge Process

- ▶ Homeless patients are at high risk for:
 - ▶ Infection
 - ▶ Theft of medication or supplies
 - ▶ Inability to adhere to medication regulations
 - ▶ Poor pain management
 - ▶ Overexertion
- ▶ Inevitabilities without intervention
 - ▶ Poor or worse health outcomes
 - ▶ Readmissions

A Viable Opportunity



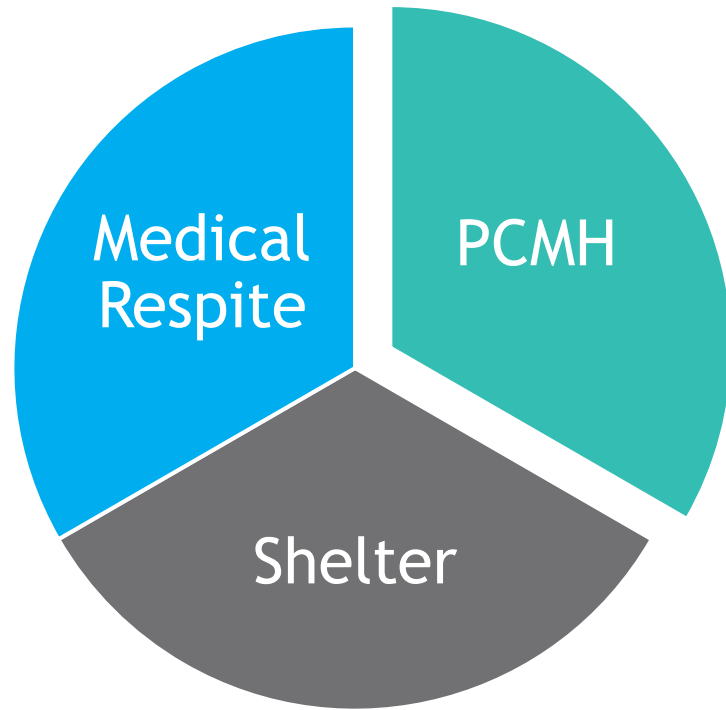
Successful Models

- ▶ Edward Thomas House (Harborview Medical Center)
 - ▶ 34 beds
 - ▶ Free-Standing Facility
 - ▶ Clinicians on Site
 - ▶ Enhanced Mental Health Team
 - ▶ Harm Reduction Philosophy
- ▶ **83% of Patients Discharged to Primary Care**
- ▶ **6% of Patients Returned to the Streets**
- ▶ **56% Reduction in Inpatient Hospital Visits**
- ▶ **67% Reduction in Readmissions Six Months Post-Respite**

Successful Models

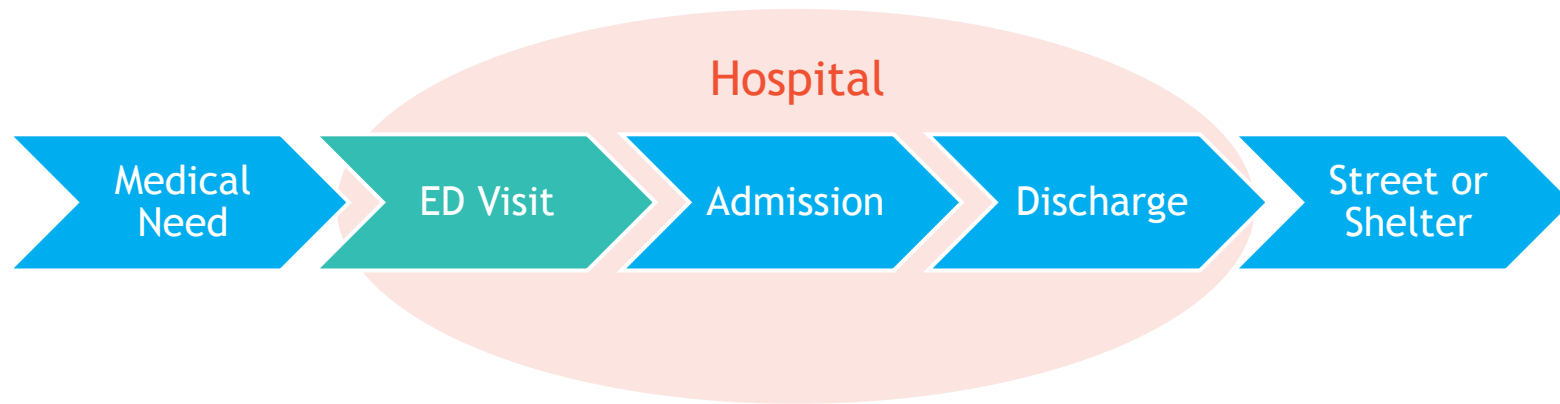
- ▶ Santa Clara County Medical Respite (VHHP - Santa Clara Valley Medical Center)
 - ▶ 20 beds
 - ▶ Clinicians, Mental Health Professionals, and Social Workers On-Site
 - ▶ Co-Located with Shelter and Primary Care
- ▶ **Estimated \$5million in Hospital Savings since 2008**
- ▶ **Over 1,000 Hospital Days Saved**
- ▶ **99% of Patients Placed Into Stable Housing**
- ▶ “I have everything I need in one place, and that’s hard to find.” - Linda

Strategies for Essential Hospitals

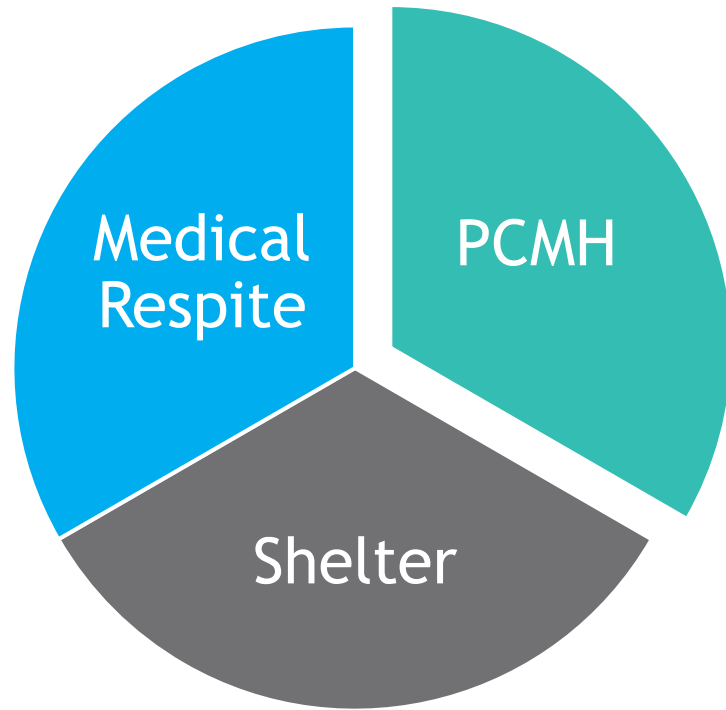


- ▶ Patient-Centered Medical Home
 - ▶ Tailored to homeless patient needs
 - ▶ Outreach
- ▶ Co-located at an essential location
- ▶ Gateway for other services
 - ▶ Regular Primary Care
 - ▶ Social Services
 - ▶ Housing and Employment

Strategies for Essential Hospitals



Strategies for Essential Hospitals



- ▶ Patient-Centered Medical Home
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 - ▶ Housing

Recommendations

- ▶ Hospitals should seek to partner with local respite programs and other community services
- ▶ Respite programs should be co-located with shelters and primary care sites
- ▶ Primary care should be tailored to best meet homeless patients' needs