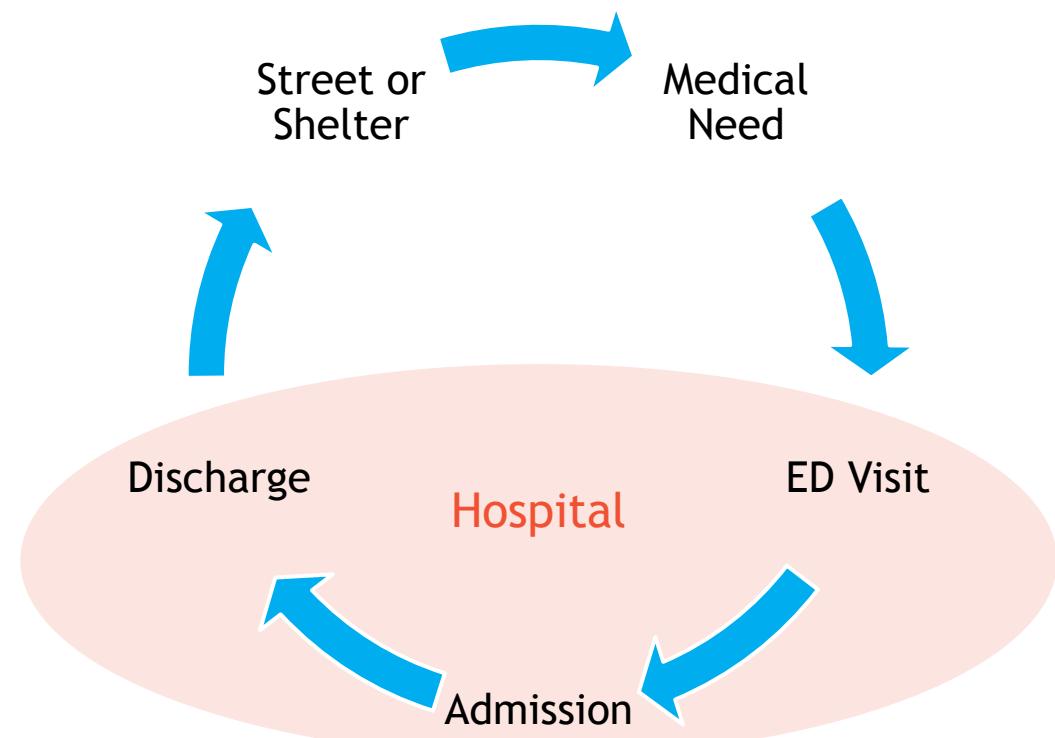


# Health Care for the Homeless: Considerations for Hospitals

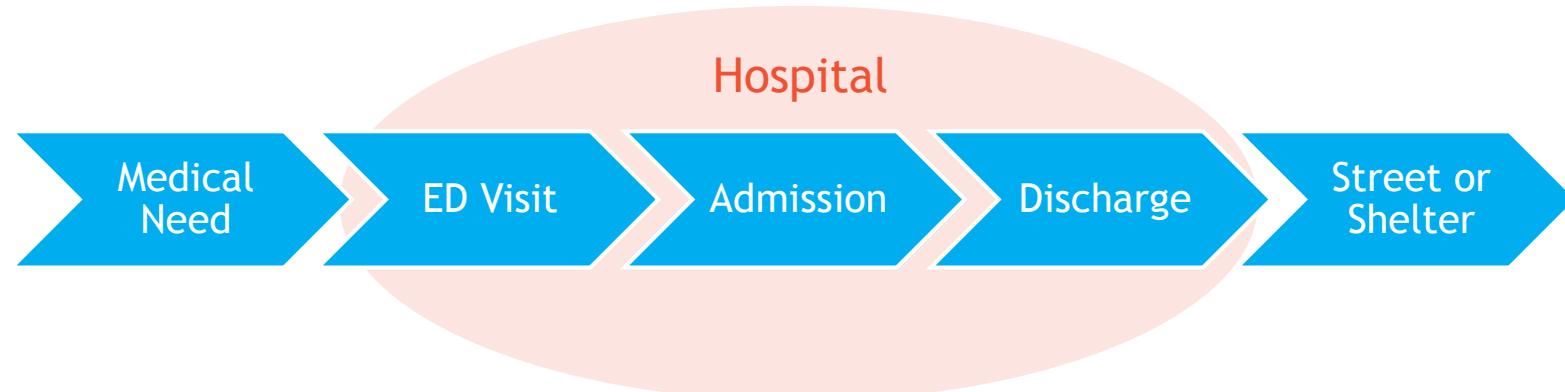
Janelle Schrag, MPH



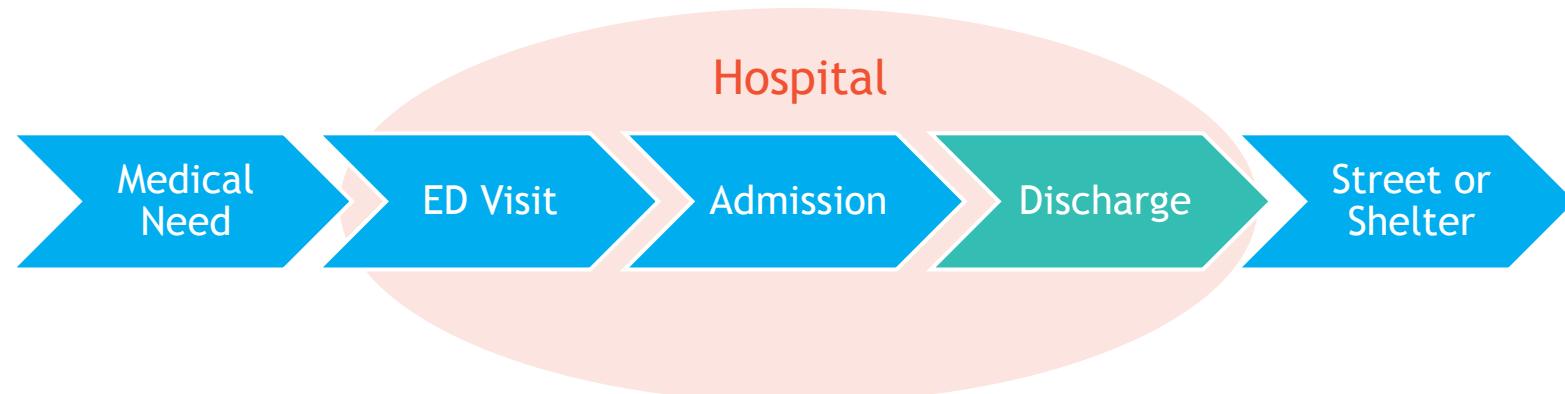
# The Role of Essential Hospitals



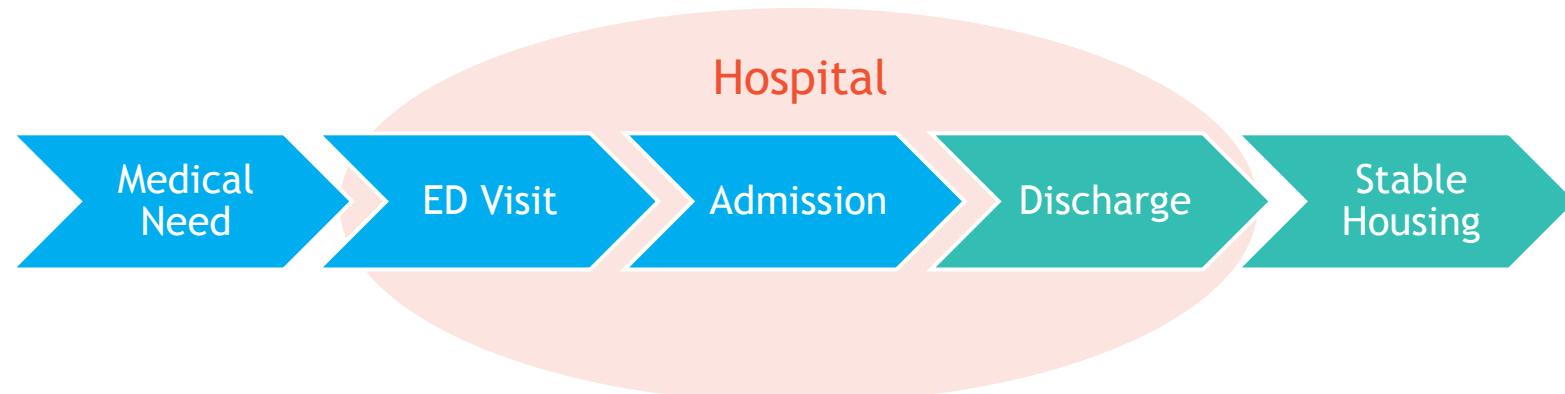
# The Role of Essential Hospitals



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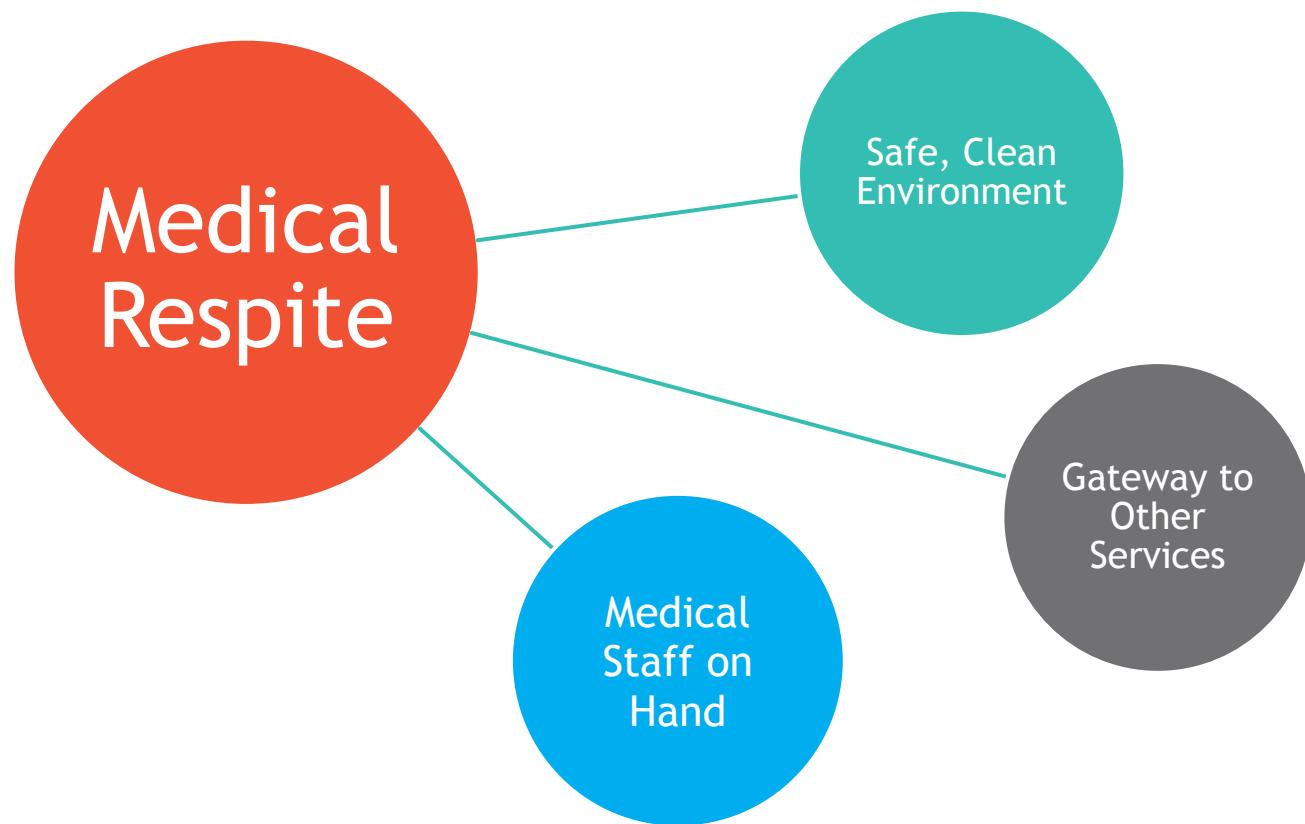
# The Role of Essential Hospitals



# 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



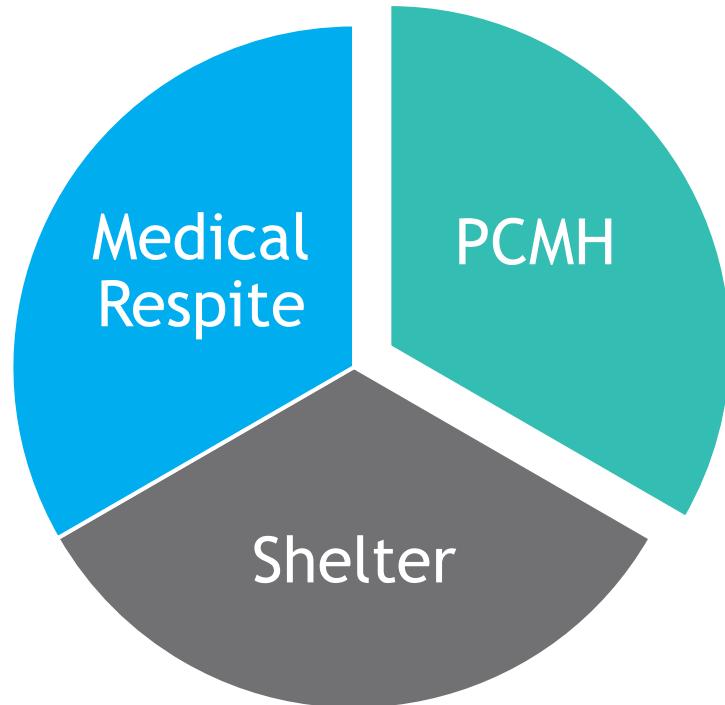
# Successful Models

- ▶ 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

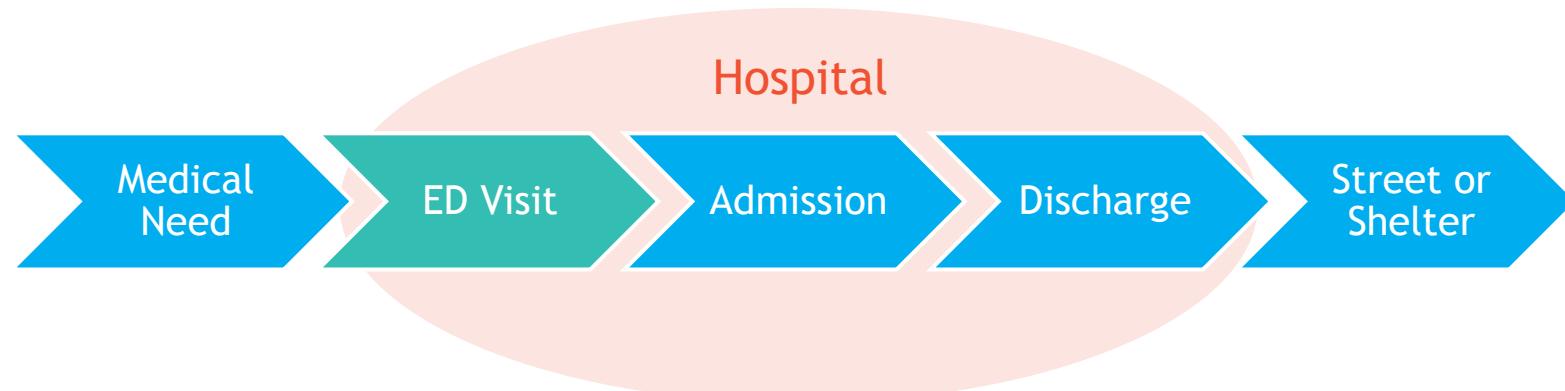
- ▶ Santa Clara County Medical Respite (VHHP - Santa Clara Valley Medical Center)
  - ▶ 20 beds
  - ▶ Clinicians, Mental Health Professionals, and Social Workers On-Site
  - ▶ Co-Located with Shelter and Primary Care
- ▶ **Estimated \$5million in Hospital Savings since 2008**
- ▶ **Over 1,000 Hospital 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

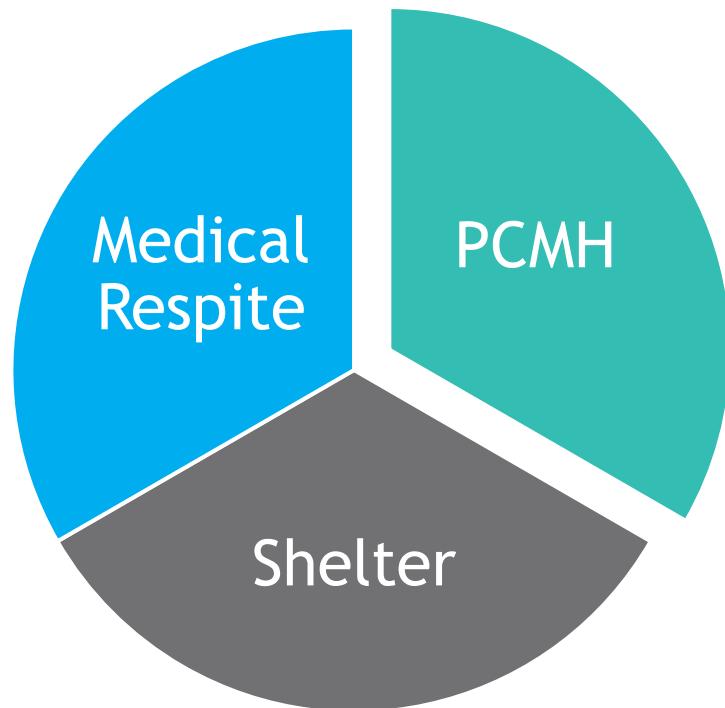


- ▶ Patient-Centered Medical Home
  - ▶ Tailored to homeless patient needs
  - ▶ Outreach
- ▶ Co-located at an essential location
- ▶ Gateway for other services
  - ▶ Regular Primary Care
  - ▶ Social Services
  - ▶ Housing and Employment

# Strategies for Essential Hospitals



# Strategies for Essential Hospitals



- ▶ Patient-Centered Medical Home
  - ▶ Tailored to homeless patient needs
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- ▶ Co-located at an essential location
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  - ▶ Social Services
  - ▶ 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