Homeless Service Use and Medicaid Spending in New Jersey: Research Plans & Early Findings

Stakeholder Meeting
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Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency
Trenton, NJ

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*Now with MedStar Health Research Institute.

The views expressed in this presentation are exclusively those of project team, and may not reflect those of the project sponsors or the state agencies contributing data.
Outline

• Project goals and overview
• Preliminary findings
• Discussion
Project Goals

1. Link 2011-16 data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS).
2. Identify opportunities to generate Medicaid savings and improve patient outcomes among Medicaid beneficiaries who use homeless services.
3. Estimate the impact on Medicaid spending of permanent supportive housing (PSH) placement.
4. Engage state officials and other interested stakeholders.
Data & Methods

• HMIS data from the NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency
  – Housing services, client characteristics
  – All counties for some services (e.g., emergency shelter) and 19 of 21 counties for other services (e.g., supportive housing).

• MMIS data from NJ Div. of Medical Assistance and Health Services
  – Beneficiary characteristics, service use, spending
  – All NJ Medicaid beneficiaries

• Data for 2011-2016 linked using client/beneficiary identifiers, and linked de-identified data shared with Rutgers for analysis under Data Use Agreements and approval of Rutgers Institutional Review Board

• Analyses exclude persons classified by Medicaid as living in a nursing facility, developmental disability facilities, or eligible for home and community-based long-term care
Research Questions

1. What are the size, characteristics, and potentially reducible Medicaid spending among homeless people who are potentially eligible for PSH support services?

2. Based on available published research, how much savings can be projected from expanding PSH?

3. How much has PSH saved Medicaid in recent years?
   a) Statewide analysis based on HMIS PSH indicator alone
   b) Deeper “return-on-investment” case studies
NJ Medicaid Enrollment 2013-2017
By eligibility category

The Study Population

Medicaid
2.1 million beneficiaries at some time during 2015

Medicaid, Not HMIS

Medicaid & HMIS
- 65,707 in 2015 linked file
- 59.8% of HMIS
- 3.1% of Medicaid

Note: Graphic not to scale
Number of Persons in Linked Medicaid and HMIS Data

*Note: Individuals may appear in more than one year*

![Bar chart showing the number of persons in linked Medicaid and HMIS data from 2011 to 2016. The chart indicates a significant increase in the number of individuals after the Medicaid expansion in 2014.](chart_image)

- 2011: 37,797
- 2012: 40,114
- 2013: 45,638
- 2014: 58,097
- 2015: 65,707
- 2016: 64,717
Percent of Individuals in Medicaid with HMIS Data

Note: Individuals may appear in more than one year
Percent of Individuals in HMIS with Medicaid Data

Note: Individuals may appear in more than one year
### HMIS Type of Residence Groups (Last coded in 2015)

*Note: Excludes Medicaid Beneficiaries living in Nursing or Developmental Disabilities Facilities or Eligible for Home and Community-Based LTC Services*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Residence</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Homeless (19%)</strong></td>
<td>Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher</td>
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<td>Interim Housing</td>
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<td>Place not meant for habitation</td>
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<td>Safe Haven</td>
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<td>Transitional housing for homeless persons</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)</td>
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<td><strong>Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) (1.0%)</strong></td>
<td>Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons</td>
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<td>Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons (such as: a CoC project; HUD legacy programs; or HOPWA PH)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rental by client, with GPD TIP subsidy</td>
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<td>Rental by client, with VASH subsidy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Transitional or Other Housing Situation (73%)</strong></td>
<td>Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher</td>
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<td>Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Residential project or halfway house with no homeless criteria</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house</td>
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<td><strong>Institutional Situation (3.8%)</strong></td>
<td>Foster care home or foster care group home</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility</td>
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<td>Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility</td>
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<td>Long-term care facility or nursing home</td>
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<td>Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility</td>
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<td>Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other/Unknown/Missing/Not Applicable (4.0%)</strong></td>
<td>(excluded from the analysis)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Demographics of Medicaid Beneficiaries by HMIS Type of Residence, 2015

*Data not shown due to small number (n<30)
HMIS Family and Chronically Homeless Status and Eligibility Category of Medicaid Beneficiaries by HMIS Type of Residence, 2015

*Data not shown due to small number (n<30).  ABD=Aged/Blind/Disabled.  GA=General Assistance.

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Health Care Utilization by HMIS Type of Residence, 2015

*Data not shown due to small number (n<30). ED=Emergency Department (not admitted). ACS=Ambulatory Care Sensitive.

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Percent with Six or More Annual Emergency Department Visits by HMIS Type of Residence, 2011-2016

- Homeless
- Other Categories

Medicaid expansion
Annual ACS Admission Rate per 1000 by HMIS Type of Residence, 2011-2016

*ACS=Ambulatory Care Sensitive.
Medicaid Behavioral Health Diagnoses by HMIS Type of Residence, 2015

- **Homeless**: 58% (Mental Health Only: 30%, Substance Use Only: 12%, Both: 16%)
- **PSH**: 51% (Mental Health Only: 19%, Substance Use Only: 8%, Both: 24%)
- **Trans/Other**: 41% (Mental Health Only: 14%, Substance Use Only: 9%, Both: 18%)
- **Institution**: 72% (Mental Health Only: 41%, Substance Use Only: 20%, Both: 12%)

% With Serious Mental Illness:
- **Homeless**: 38%
- **PSH**: 31%
- **Trans/Other**: 20%
- **Institution**: 57%
Average Annual Medicaid Spending* by HMIS Type of Residence, 2015

*Adjusted for number of months enrolled.
Average Annual Medicaid Spending* by HMIS Type of Residence, 2011-2016

*Adjusted for number of months enrolled.
DISCUSSION

Additional comments welcome!
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