




# Hospital Capacity, Throughput, & Length of Stay

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# Providence - Oregon



**8**  
HOSPITALS  
(incl. 2 critical  
access hospitals)



**90+**  
CLINICS



**1**  
HEALTH PLAN  
(625K+ members)



**1.5K**  
ACUTE CARE  
BEDS



**2.2M**  
PRIMARY CARE  
VISITS



**3**  
SUPPORTIVE  
HOUSING  
FACILITIES



**56K**  
ADMISSIONS



**23K**  
CAREGIVERS



**\$315M**  
COMMUNITY  
BENEFIT



**25K**  
SURGERIES  
AND PROCEDURES



**1.3K**  
EMPLOYED  
PROVIDERS



**\$50M**  
FOUNDATION  
CONTRIBUTIONS



# Discussion outline

The Problem

Analysis & Findings

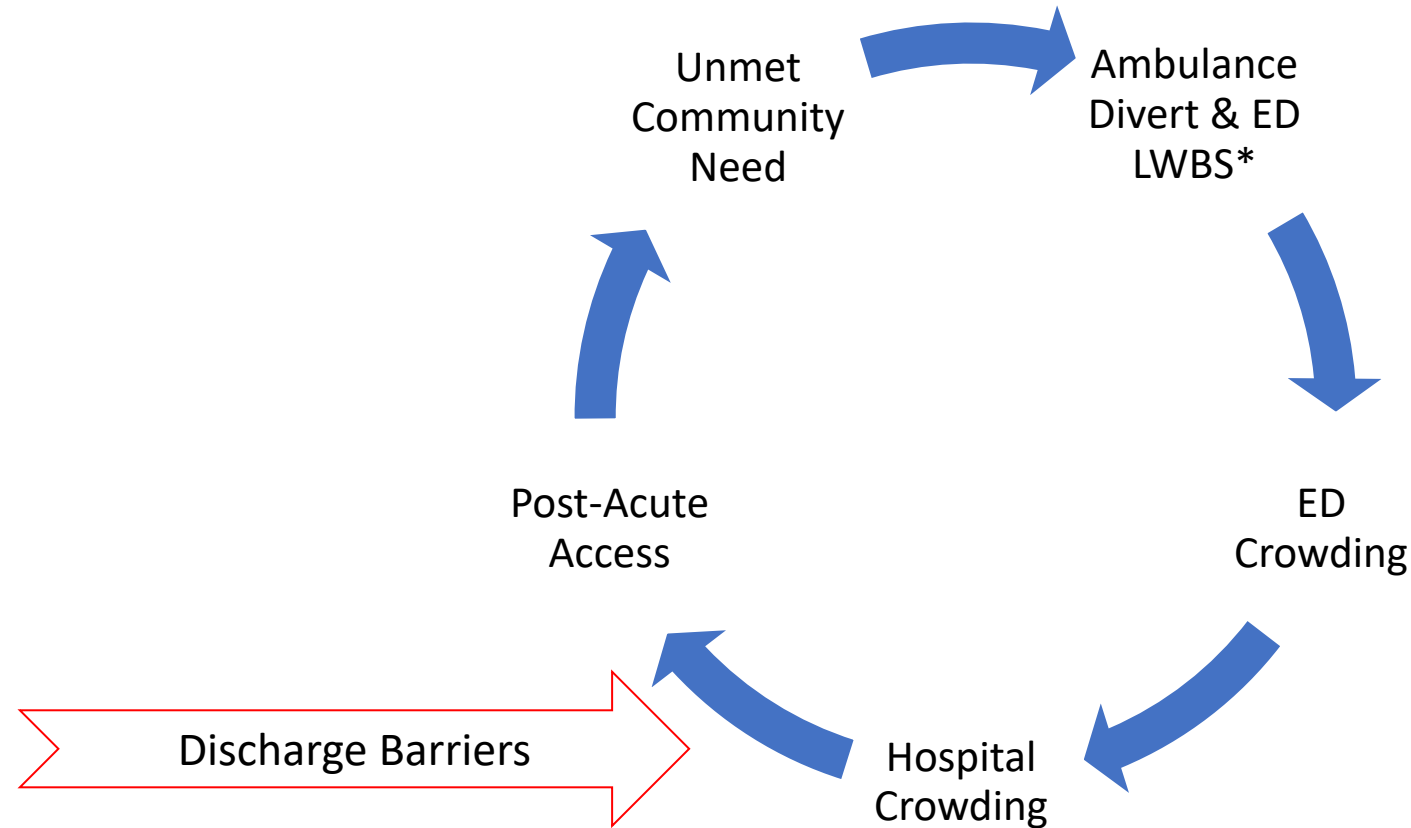
## Recommendations

Based on the information presented, we will recommend the task force focus our work on the following:

1. Process improvement
2. Coordination and escalation
3. Investment and reimbursement
4. Other opportunities

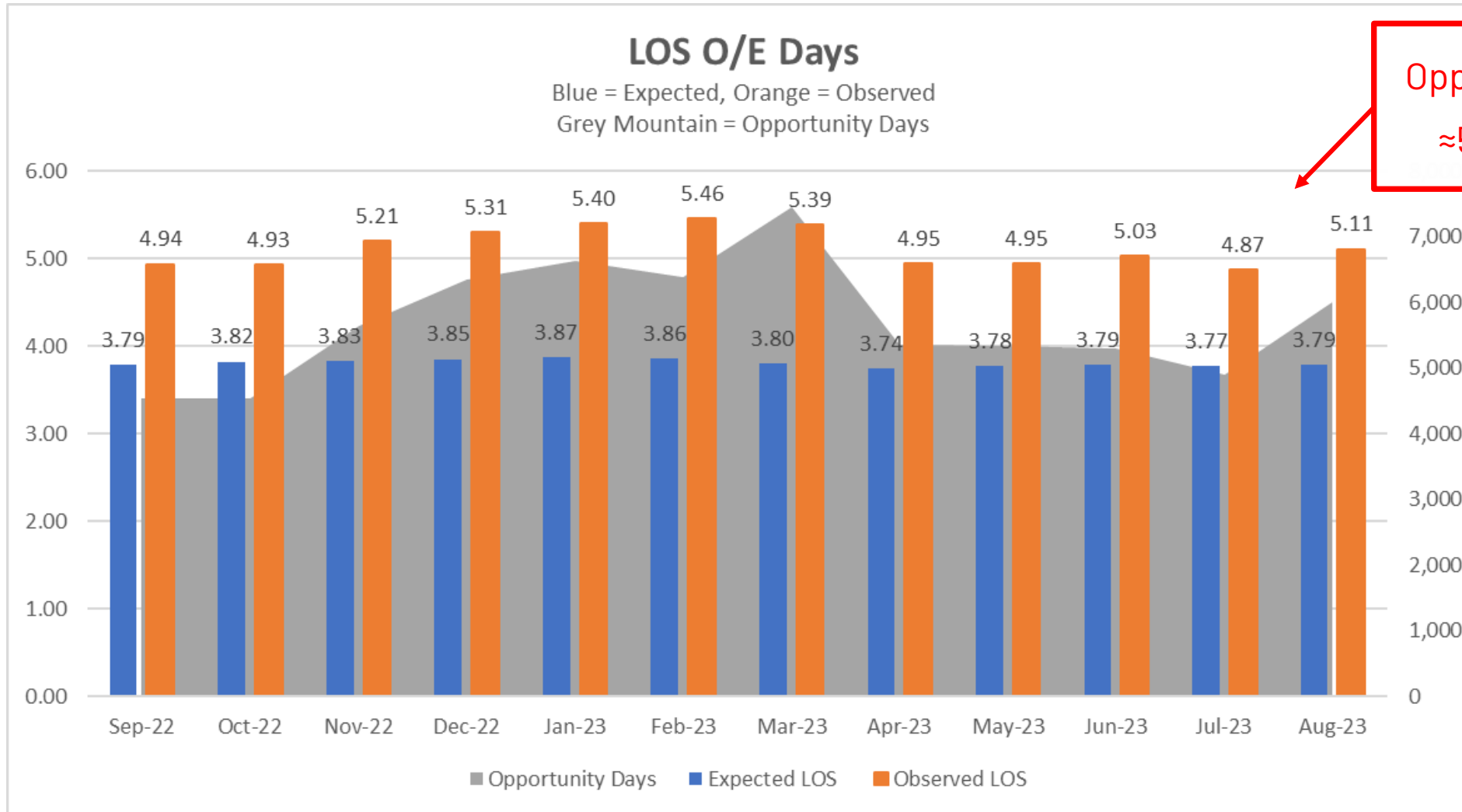
# The Problem

# Interdependence of the health care continuum



# Oregon Opportunity Days – “Grey Mountain”

Providence, Oregon - September 2022 – August 2023



Opportunity Days:  
 ≈5,700/Month

# How many more Oregonians could we care for?

Across Providence Oregon

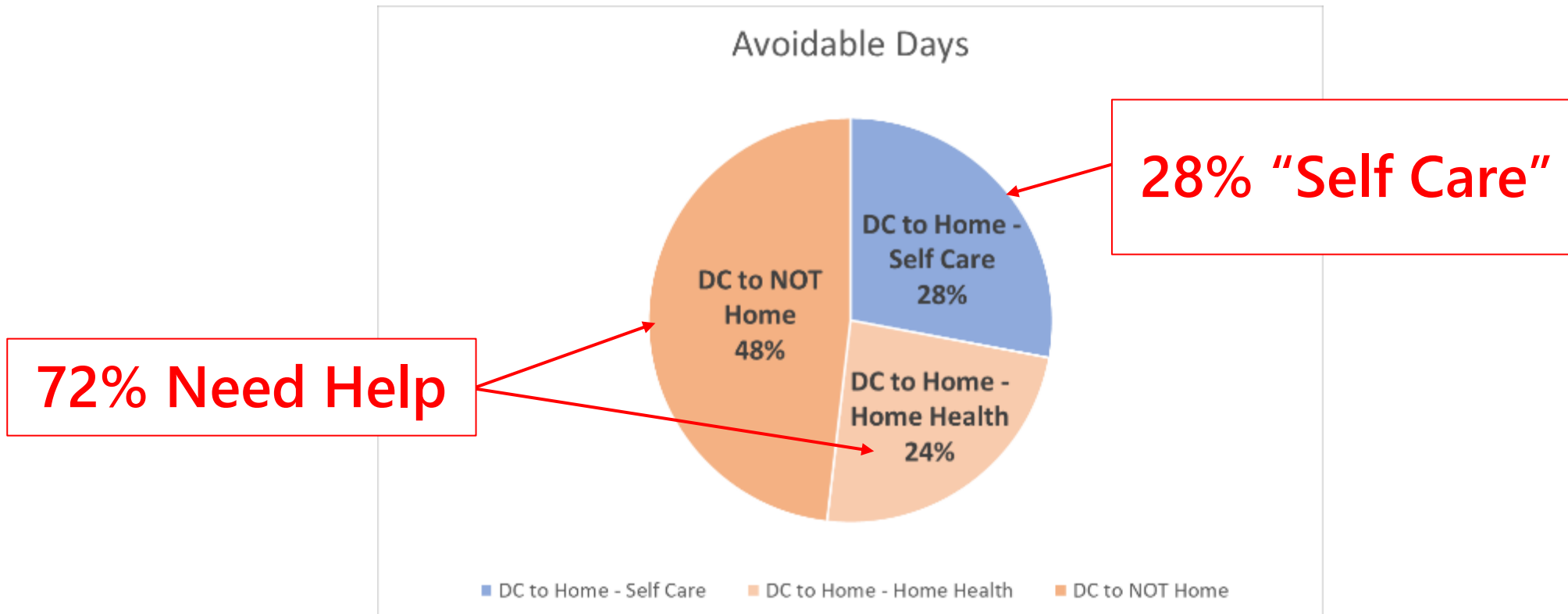
- $\approx 5,700$  “Extra” Patient Days/Month

How many more patients could we take care of?

- 1,140 “Extra” Individual Patients/Month\*
- 37 extra Patients/Day Across Providence Oregon

\* Assuming 5-day LOS

# Continuum of care needs to reflect community need





# Data & Findings

# Multiple data sources

**To verify assumptions, we analyzed several data sets**

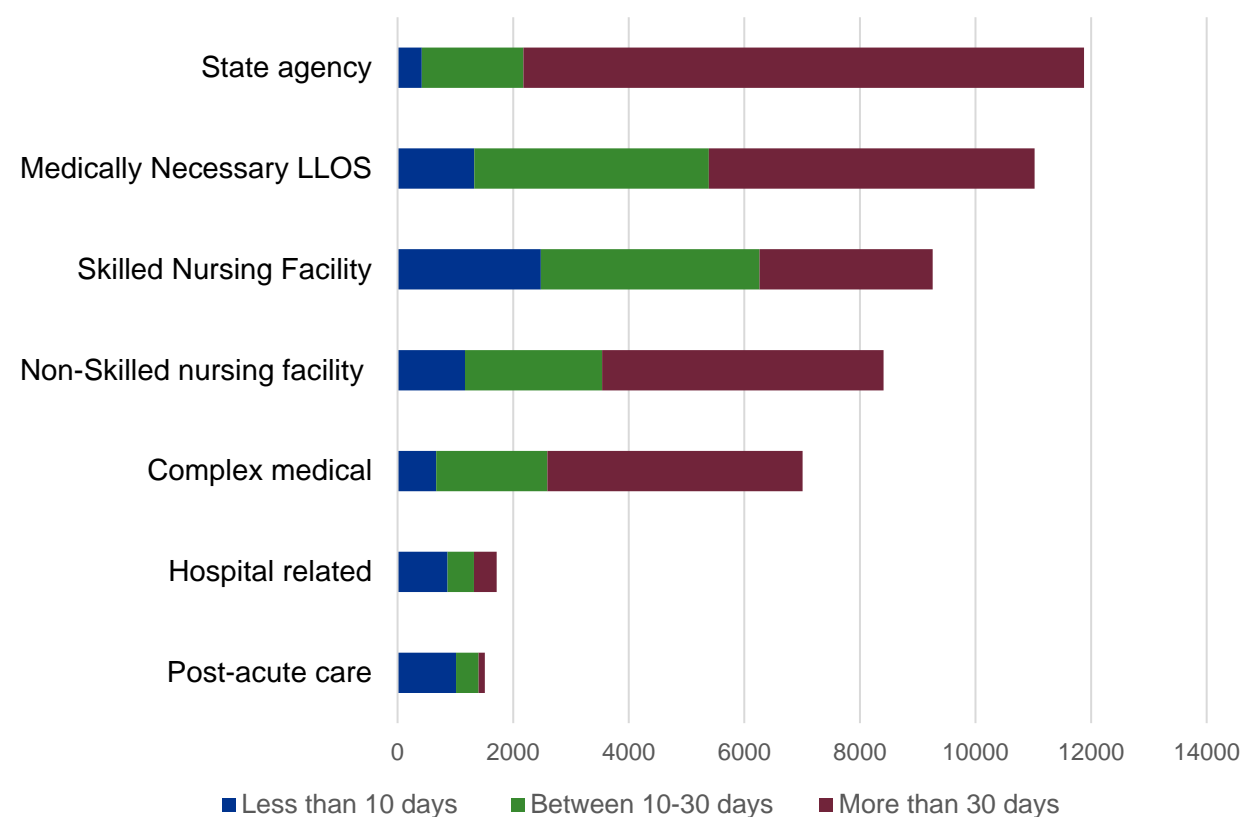
Retrospective Data  
(Providence &  
OHSU)

Real-time Data  
Snapshot  
(Prov. St. Vincent,  
Nov. – Dec. 2022)

Statewide  
Case Studies

# Retrospective data (2022-2023)

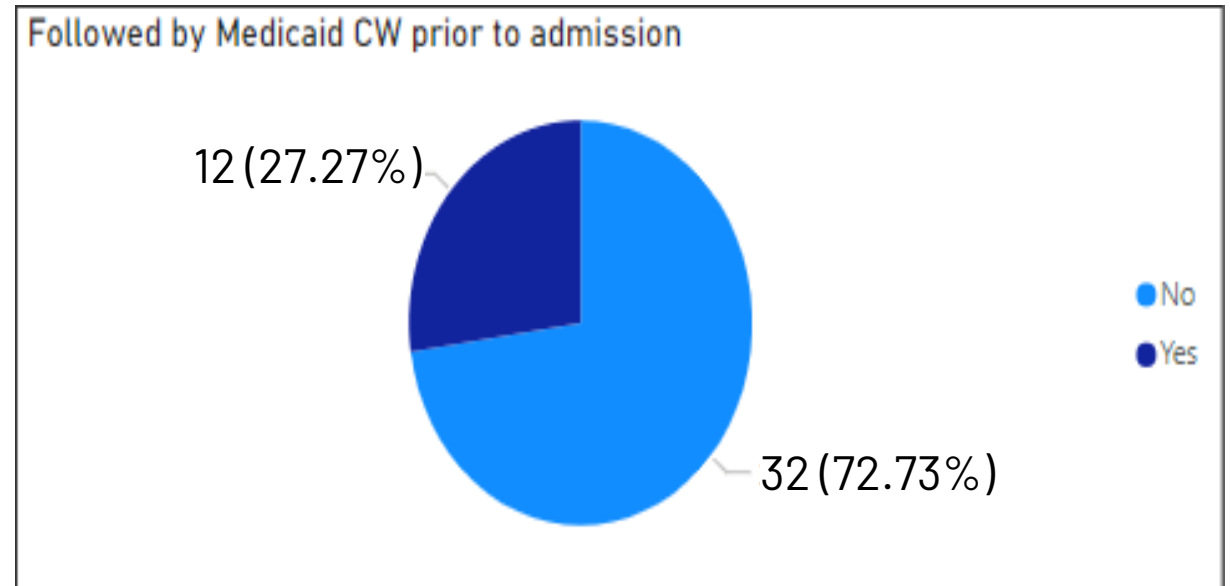
## Reason for discharge delay\*



State agency delay	Waiting for Medicaid daily rate/assessment/exemption; Challenge finding provider for current rate; Developmental disability; Adult/Child protective
Medically Necessary LLOS	Patient appropriate for hospital-level of care
SNF delay	SNF Refusal - Bed Not Available/DC Plan of Concern; SNF Refusal - No Accepting Facility; SNF Refusal - Refusing to Accept Patient Back
Non-SNF delay	Non-SNF Refusal - Bed Not Available/DC Plan of Concern; Non-SNF Refusal - No Accepting Facility; Non-SNF Refusal - Refusing to Accept Patient Back
Complex medical delay	Patient needs rates higher than base rate - Antipsychotic medication; Bariatric; Delay DME; Dialysis, RX Costs; Significant wound care; Trach/vent
Hospital related delay	Delay in service – OR/MD/Equipment; Outpatient services, PPT/OT/ST; Radiology/imaging; Weekend delay
Post-acute care delay	Home health not available, hospice not available, transfer back delay, transportation, weekend delay

# Real-time data snapshot (PSVMC)

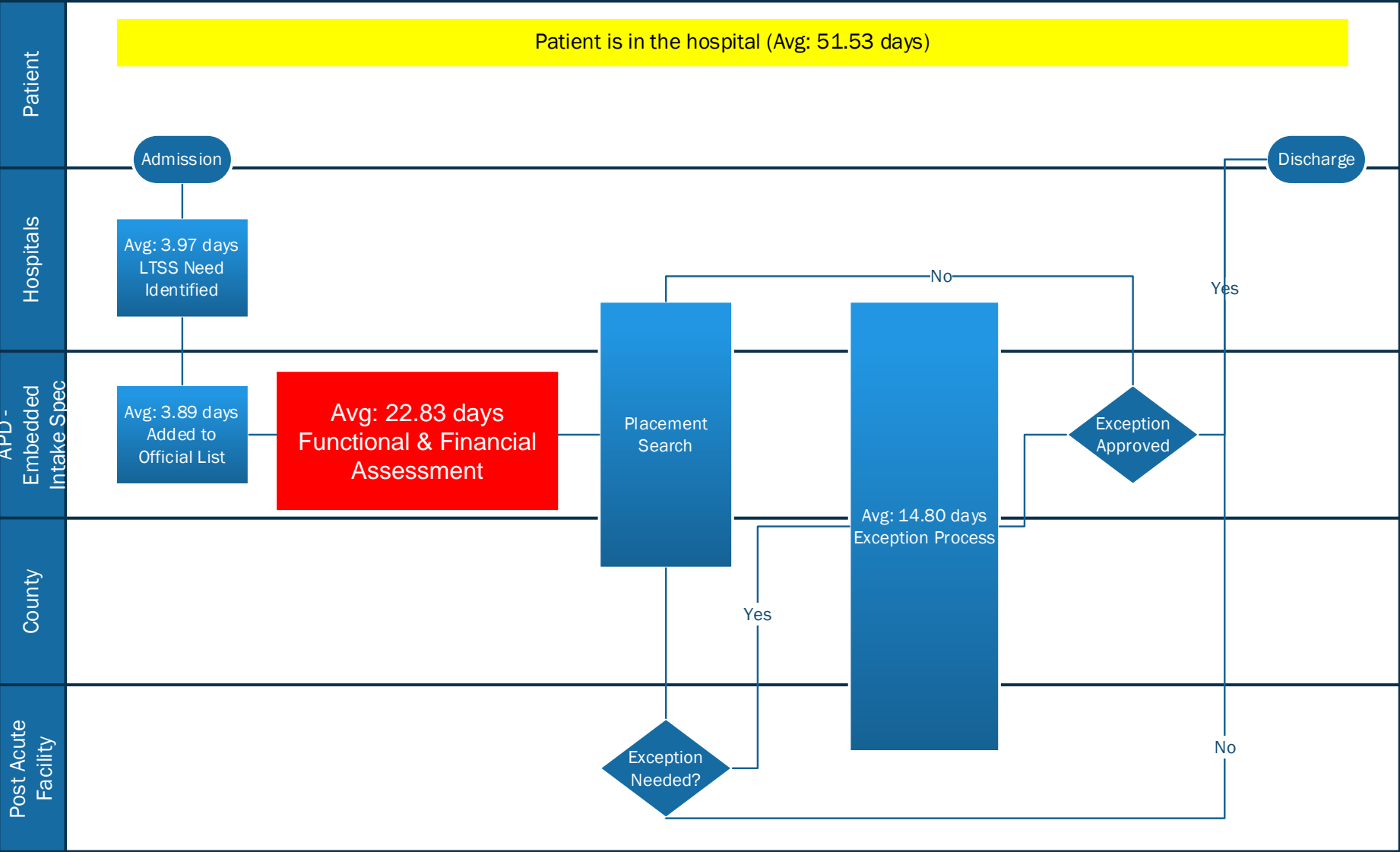
- **Data collection period:** Nov. 14 to Dec. 31, 2022
- **Location:** Providence St. Vincent Hospital
- **Target Group:** Patients currently on Medicaid or are Medicaid eligible
- **Number of patients:** 43 total, 32 patients were new to Medicaid



# Process barriers: Medicaid assessment

## Medicaid LTSS Application Process

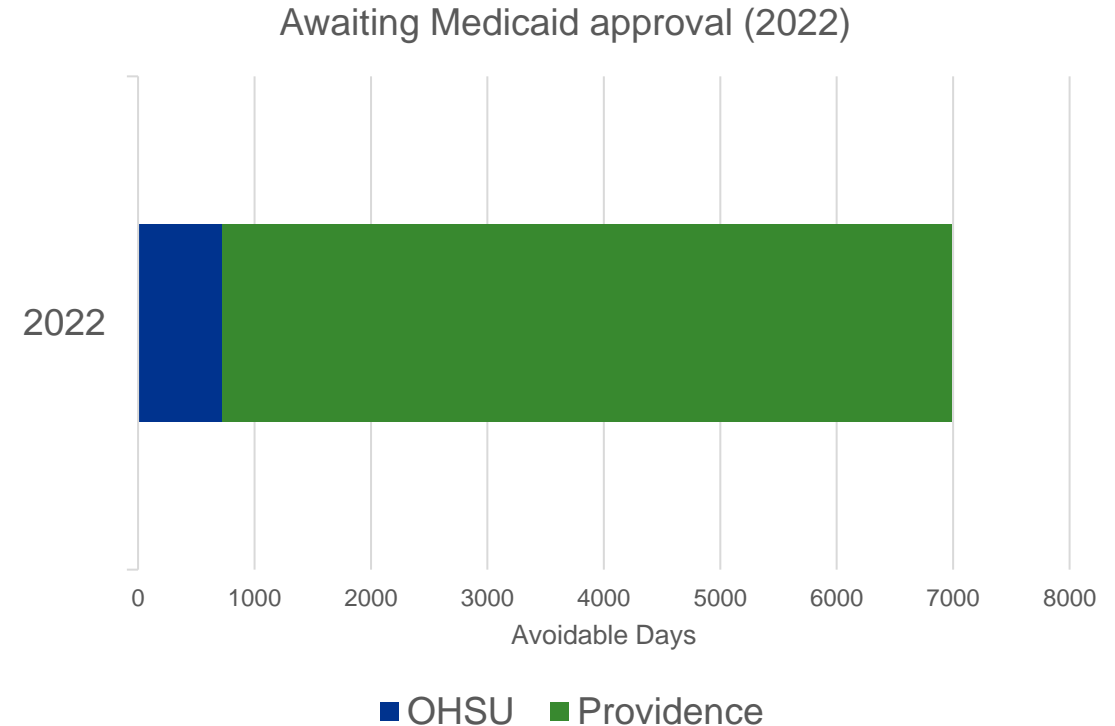
Source: PSV Realtime Data Collection



# Process barriers: Medicaid assessment

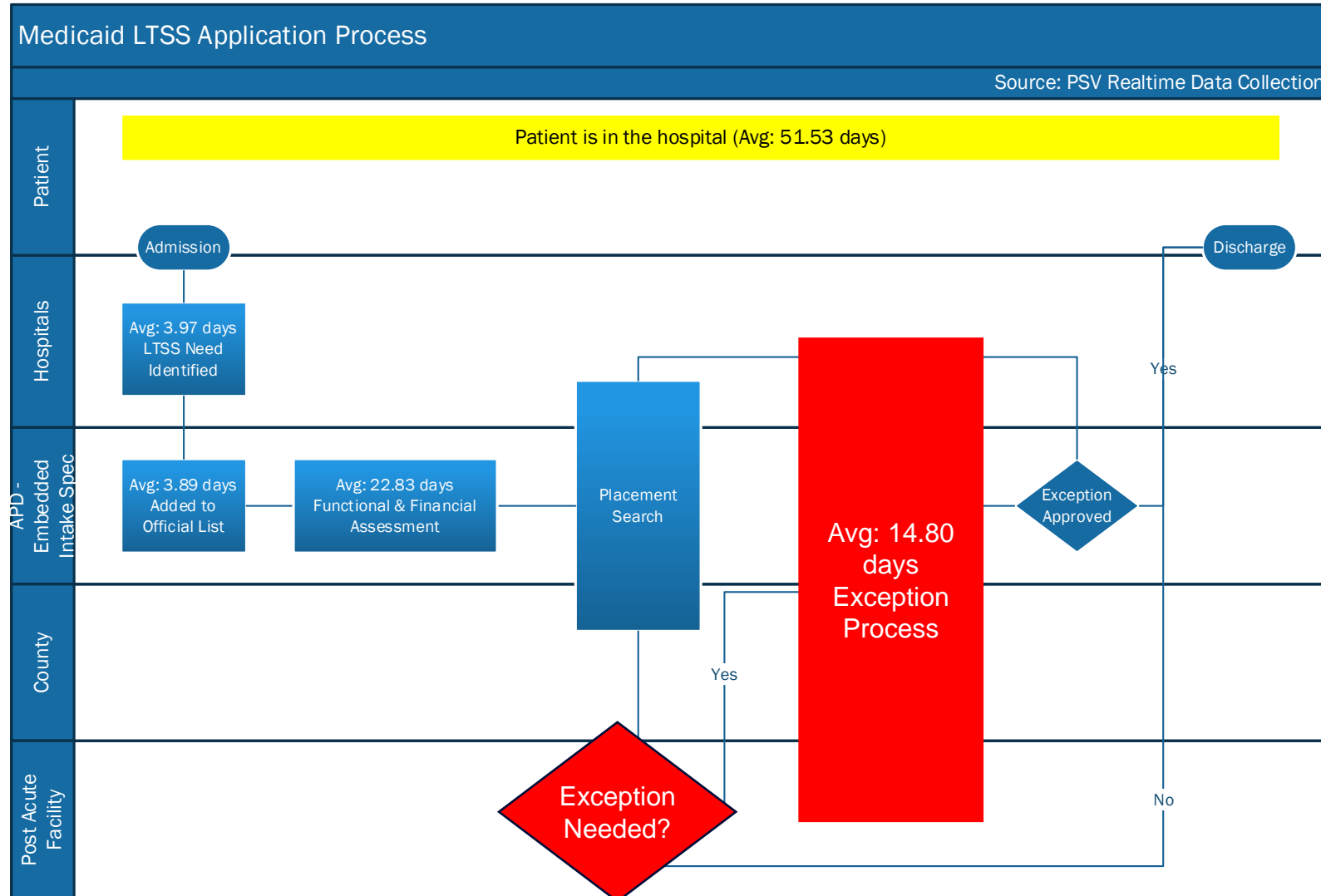
## Functional and financial assessments

45+ days to process and approve long term care Medicaid funding for patients needing financial support



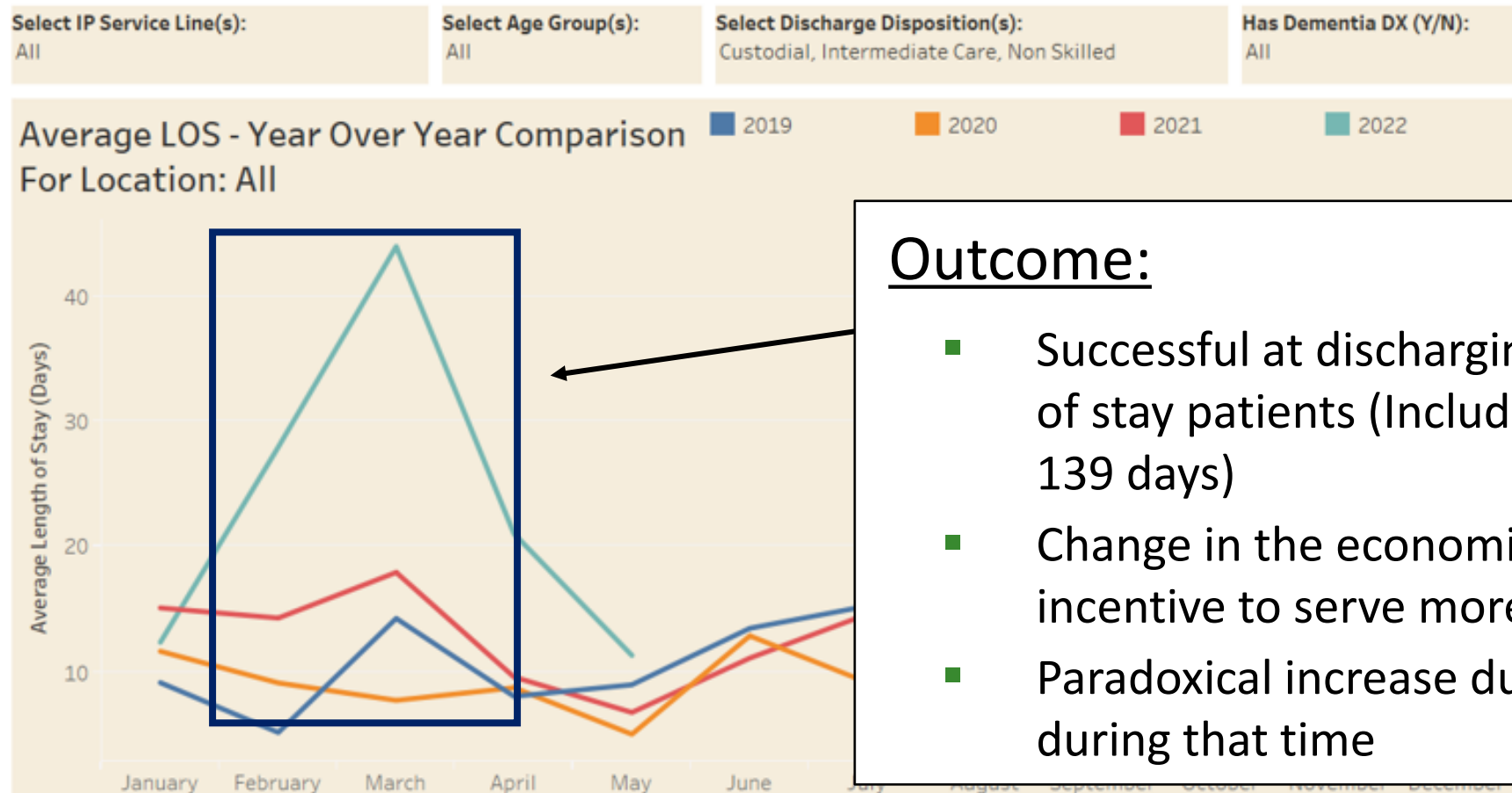
# Economic barriers: Exception rate

**If an exception is requested, the average time in the hospital is 93 days.**



# Economic barriers: Exception rate

## Case study: Adult Foster Home - Hospital Decompression Initiative (1/22-3/22)



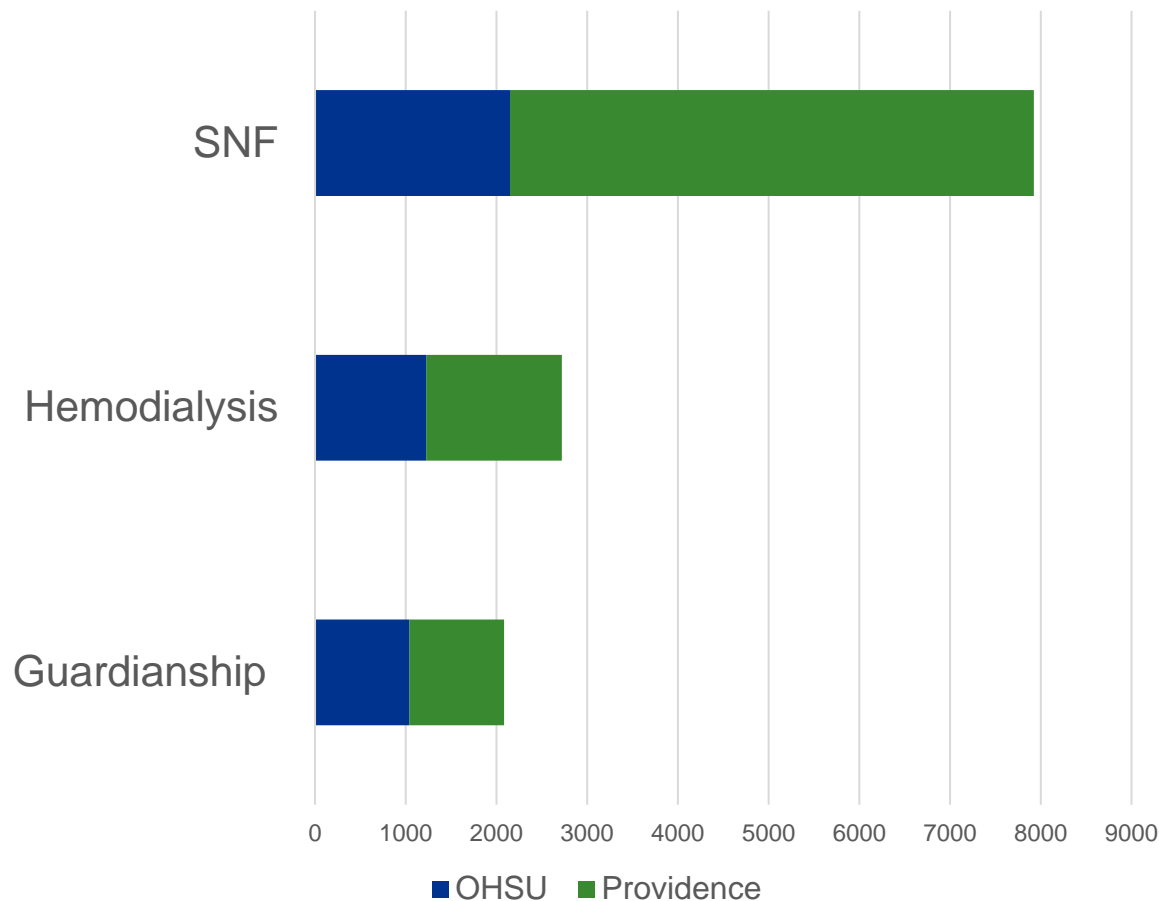
### Outcome:

- Successful at discharging very long length of stay patients (Including 298, 173, and 139 days)
- Change in the economics, created incentive to serve more patients
- Paradoxical increase due to cases accruing during that time



# Other significant discharge barriers

Other discharge barriers (2022)



- **SNF access can be difficult to obtain for several reasons:** Discharge Plan of Concern; No Accepting Facility; Refusing to Accept Patient Back; Medicaid, medically complex, needed 20+ days
- **Shortage of Hemodialysis:** Patients with chronic kidney disease present to ED and must be admitted to hospitals to manage their usually outpatient care.
- **Lack of Public Guardians:** If a patient lacks capacity (with no family/friends), the patient remains in the hospital rather than moving to a more appropriate care setting.

# Recommendations for discussion

# Process Improvement: Recommendations

## **Reduce time from hospital request to agency approval for Medicaid eligibility assessments (functional and financial)**

- Develop a LTC presumptive eligibility process, mirroring existing Medicaid model
- Fast track agency approval for individuals being discharged to hospice
- Improve APD/county case worker process: Standardize hospital requirements/data sharing and consistently train case workers and care managers

# Coordination and Escalation: Recommendations

## **Improve care coordination for patients with complex needs**

- Implement a standard escalation pathway for stuck patients with accountability and timelines case (consider specific criteria around acuity, behavioral health, houseless)
- Create mechanisms for hospitals to partner more closely with post-acute care settings through the transition of a complex patient
- Standardize evaluation and admission criteria to post-acute care settings
- Identify regulatory/licensing barriers to acceptance of certain patients

# Investment and Reimbursement: Recommendations

## **Consider reimbursement changes and investments to ensure post-acute access for high acuity patients**

- Develop consistent, streamlined process for securing exemption rates
- Complete a rate review process and recommend sustainable rate increases (considerations may include acuity, behavioral health, houseless)
- Medicaid coverage - evaluate CCO SNF benefit which is currently limited to 20-days

# Other opportunities

## **Systems or support needed to move patients to the appropriate setting more efficiently**

- Information/communication: Can hospitals provide more details or information to support decisions about patient acceptance?
- Reimbursement needed: What financial assurances are needed to make settings more confident about accepting patients?
- Post-acute barriers to patient discharge: Are there specific discharge challenges that are needed to improve throughput? (example - SNF to home health)