

Community Paramedicine Program

Behavioral/Mental Health and Substance
Abuse



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Introduction

- Kimberly B. Green, Deputy Director Lincoln County EMS
- Lincoln County
 - Geographic Land Area: 297.94 sq.mi.
 - County population, 2014: 79,829
 - Persons 65 years and over, 2014: 12,693 (15.9%)
- Lincoln County EMS
 - Annual Call Volume: 14,222
 - Total Units: 7 ALS units 24/7, 2 ALS units peak time, 2 ALS QRV's 24/7
 - Total Shifts: 4
 - 12.25 hour shifts
 - straight day/straight night schedule
 - Management Staff:
 - 6 Administrative staff (including Administrative Assistant and Logistics Officer)
 - 4 Shift Supervisors
 - 4 Assistant Supervisors
 - 4 FTO's



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Community Paramedicine Program

- Alternative Destination Transport
 - Three alternative destinations in the area (Lincolnton, Gastonia, and Shelby)
- NC State protocols, policies and procedures approved and in place
- Currently supported by DHHS grant funding



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The Process During Crisis

Patient's crisis develops

EMS is summoned and responds

Paramedic evaluates situation and assesses/examines patient

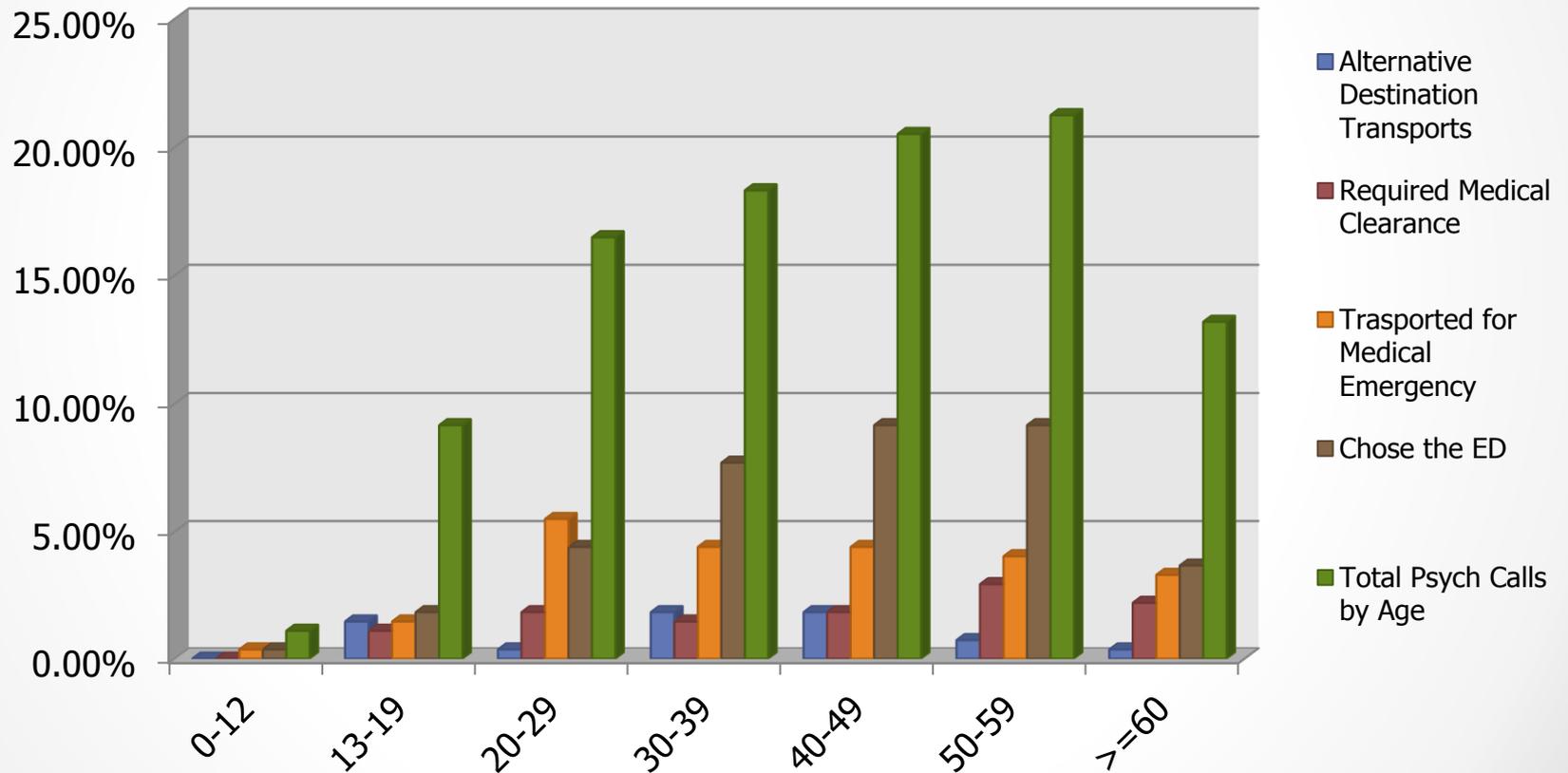
Paramedic offers options available for patient

Paramedic transports the patient to the facility of choice

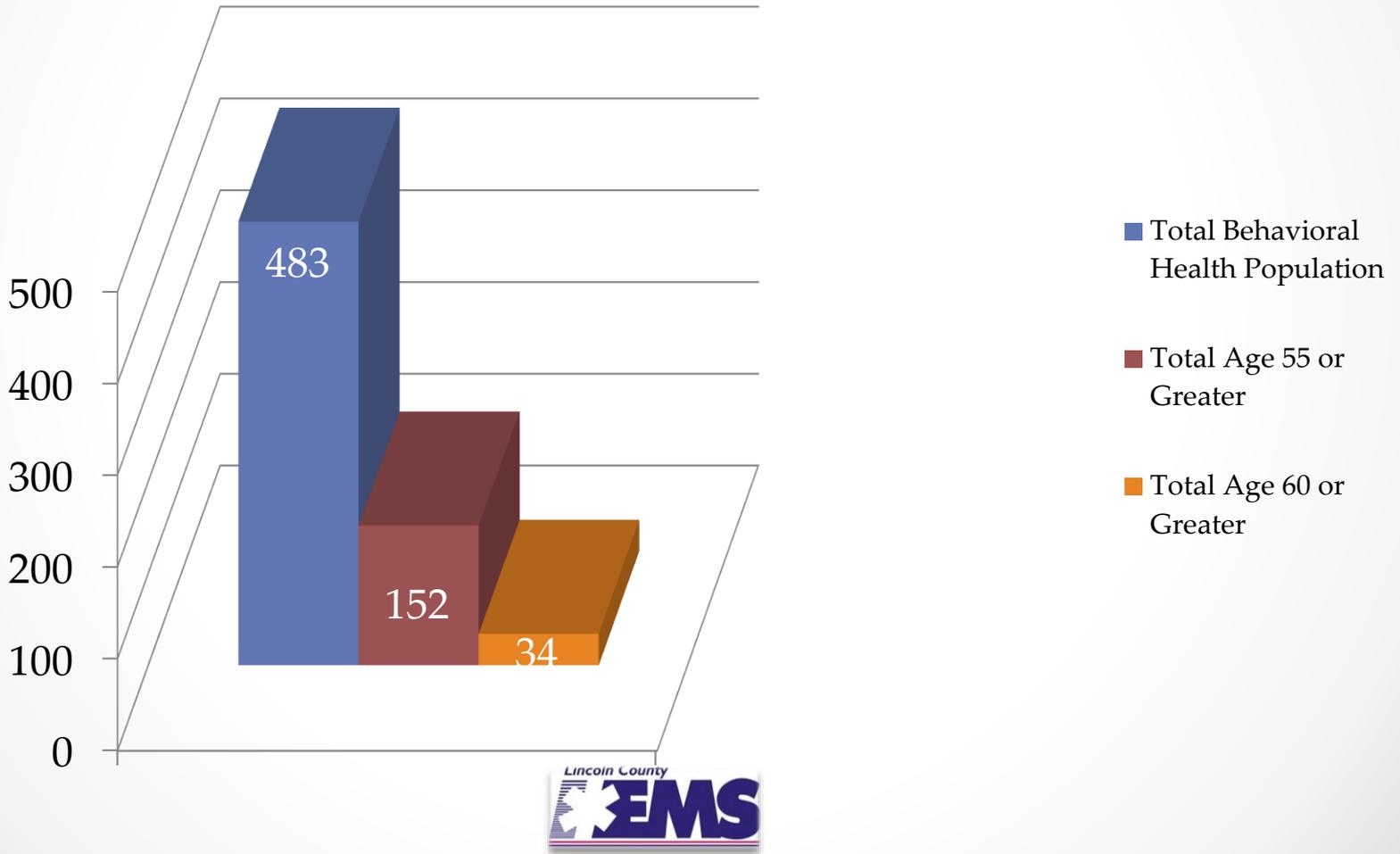
Why the Program Works



Who are we helping?



NCIOM Task Force Concerns



The Next Steps...

- Strike Team approach for BH/MH/SA consumers with co-morbidities
- Partnering with CHS Lincoln to minimize high re-admission rate diagnoses



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Challenges

- Short – term Challenges
 - Local partnerships with Law Enforcement agencies
 - Financial Sustainability of the program
 - Opportunities for improvement of the current program
 - Public Education
- Long – term Challenges
 - Insurance billing legislature
 - Curriculum education standards for EMS providers
 - Staff education program for more extensive medical evaluations
 - Equipment needed to provide more extensive medical evaluations



Questions?



Sources Sited

- U.S. Census Bureau
<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/37/37109.html>
- DHHS Community Paramedic Behavioral Health Program database
<https://www.ncdmh.net/CommunityParamedicBehavioralHealth/>



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