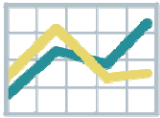




**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

## Community Integration

Since 1969, Pennsylvania has dramatically reduced its reliance on state-operated psychiatric facilities by integrating persons with mental illness back into community settings. Integration into the community wherein relationships and environments provide hope, empowerment, choices and opportunity, helps those with serious mental illness reach their full potential.



### How Are We Doing?

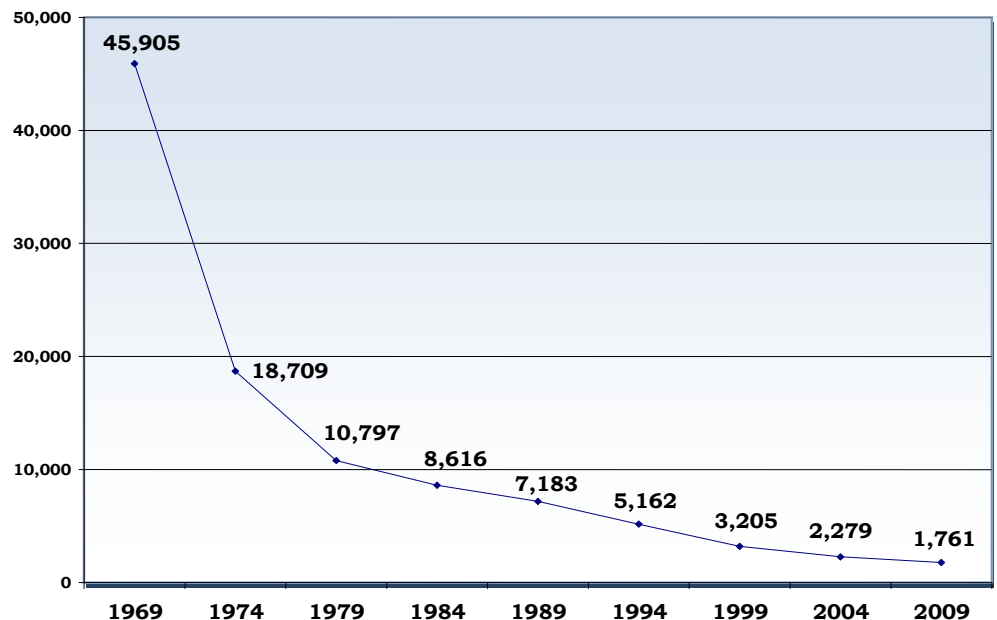
Marked progress has been evidenced by fewer admissions and readmissions to state psychiatric hospitals. Our Service Area Planning goals are aimed at reducing state hospital utilization. The Community/Hospital Integration Projects Program (CHIPP) provides funding for less restrictive community services for individuals in state mental hospitals.

*"Integration into the community... helps those with mental illness reach their full potential."*

### Talking Points:

- ✓ **The Community Integration Project** assists consumers of mental health services to reconnect to their communities and to assess barriers and supports for this process.
- ✓ **Money Follows the Person** is a federal initiative that provides assistance to people living in institutions so they can return to their own communities to live independently.
- ✓ **PA Olmstead policy** is that every person in an institutional setting is eligible for community integration unless they affirmatively object to it.

**Movement of Pennsylvanians from Hospital to Community Settings: Patients Census at State-Operated Mental Health Facilities**



**What Do the Findings Mean?** Over a 40-year span, Pennsylvania's state mental hospital census decreased precipitously. The dramatic 59% decline from 1969 to 1974 is attributed in part to grants provided via the 1963 Community Mental Health Act to establish community mental health centers, and to the development of new psychotropic and psychotherapeutic medications. The census continues to decline; during the last 10 years it dropped approximately 45%.

**What Did We Measure?** The chart represents totals compiled annually from the Patient Census Information System. Data reflect the average daily census for all state mental health facilities. Pennsylvania no longer operates state facilities for children and adolescents, yet the 1969 - 2000 numbers include child/adolescent patients at Eastern State School and Hospital. Similarly, the 1969 - 1979 figures at Eastern Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute and the 1969 - 1974 data at Western State School and Hospital include child/adolescents.