

## **Mental Health Treatment in Regional Mental Health Institutes, Tennessee, 1997**

- Five Regional Health Institutes (RMHIs)<sup>39</sup> were funded by the Department of Mental Health until July 1, 1996. After July 1, 1996, the main source of revenue for the RMHIs was through TennCare Partners reimbursement under contract with two Behavioral Health Organizations (BHO) that authorized services and the level of care for their consumers.
- The number of patients admitted<sup>40</sup> to the 5 RMHIs in Tennessee in 1997 was 6,359.
- Sixty-three percent of patients were admitted to the RMHIs for the first time in 1997 with 37% being readmitted patients.
- The age-groups of patients more frequently admitted to the RMHIs in 1997 included the prime working and childbearing ages --30-39 year-olds (28%), 21-29 year-olds (20%), and 40-49 year-olds (18%). Thirteen percent of those admitted to the RMHIs were between 13 to 17 years of age.
- The 6,359 patients admitted to the RMHIs in 1997 were fairly evenly distributed across the five facilities. MTMHI had the highest proportion of admissions at 26%, followed by MMHI at 21%, MBMHI at 20%, and LMHI at 17%. WMHI had the lowest percentage of admissions at 16% of the total.

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<sup>39</sup>The psychiatric hospitals which are owned and operated by the State of Tennessee are referred to as Regional Mental Health Institutes (RMHI's). They are as follows: Lakeshore Regional Mental Health Institute (LRMHI) in Knoxville serving the East and Upper East Tennessee Regions; Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute (MBMHI) in Chattanooga serving Southeast Tennessee and the Upper Cumberland Plateau; Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute (MTMHI) in Nashville serving the Middle Tennessee area; Western Mental Health Institute (WMHI) in Bolivar serving West Tennessee; and Memphis Mental Health Institute (MMHI) serving Shelby County and counties bordering Shelby.

<sup>40</sup>Unduplicated admissions are equivalent to a count of persons admitted at least once to the RMHI in 1997.