

## Our Vision for San Diego County:

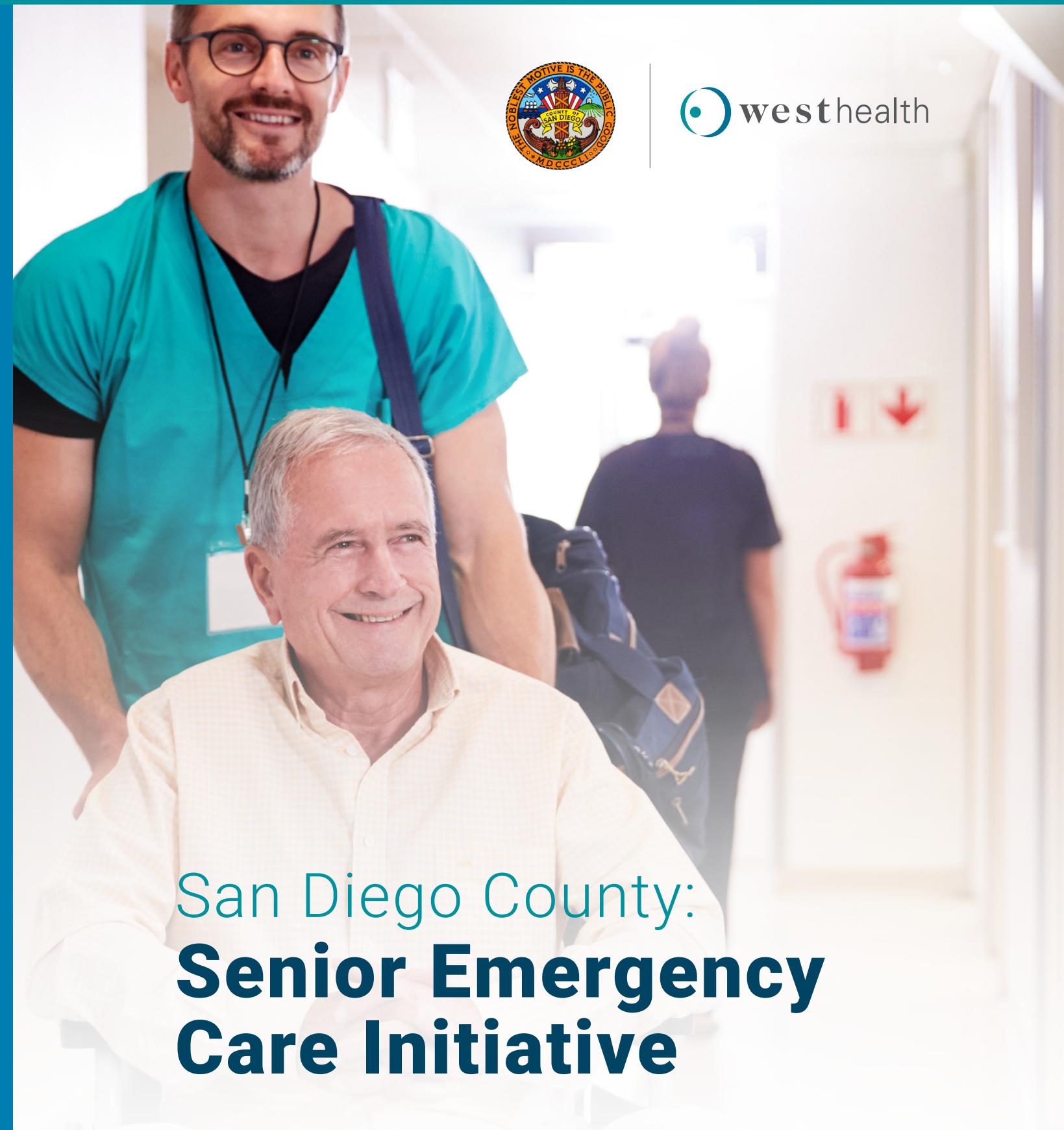
Continue leading the way in providing world class care and resources for seniors by becoming the first county in the U.S. to have a majority of senior-friendly Emergency Departments

**Join us in bringing the vision to reality and ensuring that senior patients receive the quality of care they need and deserve.**

Contact us at: [GED@westhealth.org](mailto:GED@westhealth.org)

Learn more at: [westhealth.org](http://westhealth.org)

Follow us on Twitter: [@westhealth](https://twitter.com/westhealth)




## San Diego County: **Senior Emergency Care Initiative**

Leading the way in Providing  
World-Class Care for Seniors




# The Facts

Throughout the U.S., seniors rely on the Emergency Department (ED) as a critical entry point into the healthcare system.

**46%**   
OF ALL ED VISITS RESULTING  
IN HOSPITALIZATIONS ARE  
**SENIORS**

**1 IN 10**   
OF EVERY HOSPITAL ADMISSION  
IS POTENTIALLY AVOIDABLE, AND

**60%**   
OF THOSE  
ADMISSIONS ARE  
FOR PATIENTS  
**65 YEARS  
OR OLDER**

## WHY GERIATRIC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS (GEDs)?

While there is no-one-size-fits-all approach, GEDs are tailored to address the acute, social and chronic care needs of seniors.

 **16% REDUCTION**  
in risk of hospital admission from the ED

 **REDUCE OR DELAY**  
admission to skilled nursing by 70% or more

## THE OPPORTUNITY IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

**374,000**  
SENIORS AGED 65 OR OLDER  
*(expected to double by 2030)*

**12%**  
OF COUNTY'S POPULATION  
*(>75,000 dual-eligible for Medicaid)*

**20 EDs**  
SERVING ADULTS IN  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
*(>180,000 senior ED visits/year)*



# The Goal

Become the first county in the U.S. to have the majority of its EDs accredited as senior-friendly by 2021.

## NATIONAL ACCREDITATION PROGRAM



### LEVEL 3

- Staffing
- Policies
- Equipment
- Physical environment



### LEVEL 2

- Staffing (interdisciplinary team)
- Education
- Policies (>10)
- Quality improvement
- Outcomes (>3)
- Equipment (>5)
- Physical environment



### LEVEL 1

- Staffing (executive sponsor)
- Patient advisor/council
- Education
- Policies (>20)
- Quality improvement
- Outcomes (>6)
- Equipment (>10)
- Physical plant enhancements

## THE PLAN

**3-STAGED APPROACH** > DURATION: 12-15 MONTHS



### BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

Establish public/private partnership and engage leaders in the Healthcare community



### TRAIN AND IMPLEMENT

Provide training and support for EDs to implement best practices in Geriatric Emergency Medicine



### SCALE AND SUSTAIN

Grow and disseminate best practices for seniors in health systems across San Diego county

**RESOURCES** for EDs to achieve accreditation will be provided through the public private partnership in the form of expertise and funding support.