



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **San Ysidro Health and Mountain Health enter into formal management agreement**

**SAN DIEGO, CA** – San Ysidro Health and Mountain Health have entered into a formal management agreement that will allow San Ysidro Health to assume administrative responsibilities of Mountain Health operations, while also performing a due diligence process to determine the feasibility of moving forward with a formal affiliation arrangement. Should the consolidation take place, the combined organization would care for nearly 105,000 patients per year.

On April 25th, the Mountain Health Board of Directors decided it was in the best interest of their organization, the community they serve, and their dedicated staff to collaborate with a partner that could strengthen and expand the services to the patients Mountain Health currently serves. Mountain Health sought a strong clinic partner with expert management staff to help sustain the delivery of services as a vital community resource.

After much thought and consideration, San Ysidro Health's Board of Trustees responded to the request for collaboration and partnership.

"The Mountain Health Board of Directors and Executive team has agreed to accept San Ysidro Health's consolidation proposal," said Judith Shaplin, Chief Executive Officer, Mountain Health. "We felt strongly that San Ysidro Health's history, values, and organizational mission are highly compatible with those of Mountain Health. We look forward to joining the San Ysidro Health network of care and continue to serve patients in our service areas."

Both agencies agree of the importance to preserve and sustain the vital and comprehensive health services provided by Mountain Health, particularly in East County, Escondido, Santee, and San Diego. The Mountain Health Board feels that this consolidation will be positive not only in providing additional comprehensive health services to the rural and low-income population served by Mountain Health, it will also increase and strengthen the advocacy on both a state and national level.

“We are excited about this collaboration with Mountain Health as it aligns with our mission to improve the well-being of the communities we serve with access for all,” said Kevin Mattson, president and CEO, San Ysidro Health. “As San Ysidro Health continues to celebrate 50 years of service, we are committed to helping organizations keep their doors open, expanding our reach and supporting more communities to achieve positive health outcomes.”

For more information regarding San Ysidro Health, please visit [www.syhealth.org](http://www.syhealth.org) or call 619-662-4100.

### **About San Ysidro Health**

[San Ysidro Health](http://www.syhealth.org) (formerly San Ysidro Health Center) is a non-profit organization committed to providing high quality, compassionate, accessible and affordable health care services for the entire family. The organization was founded by seven women in search of medical services for their children. Fifty years later, San Ysidro Health now provides innovative care to nearly 97,000 lives in our care through a vast and integrated network of 34 program sites across San Diego County including: medical clinics, dental clinics, behavioral health centers, HIV centers, WIC nutrition centers, mobile medical units, school-based health centers, chiropractic services, pediatric developmental clinic, teen clinic, senior health center and Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). San Ysidro Health and its program sites are designed under the concept of the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model of care, where the patient, not the support staff or provider, is the focus of all care and services. For additional information please visit San Ysidro Health at [www.syhealth.org](http://www.syhealth.org).

### **About Mountain Health**

Mountain Health originated in rural East County San Diego’s Mountain Empire region, driven by residents’ desire to realize some health care capacity in this region that had almost no health care resources at the time. Mountain Health opened its first clinic in Campo in 1974, followed by clinics in Jacumba, Community Heights, Alpine, Escondido and Santee. Mountain Health has become the primary general-service health care provider in the Mountain Empire region, and thousands of rural residents look to Mountain Health to meet their health care needs. Mountain Health also controls operation of the Mountain Health Community Center in Campo, which provides a variety of services including a senior nutrition program, a variety of classes, a food pantry, a volunteer driving program to aid rural seniors’ mobility, and programming for children and youth. The Center has served a critical role in the region during the major fire emergencies in the last decade, and Mountain Health stands ready to stand with first responders and emergency response agencies as needed in future crises.

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