



Background

- ☐ Legally, self-neglect is defined as an adult's inability to perform essential self-care tasks due to physical or mental impairment or diminished capacity. Such tasks include obtaining food, clothing, shelter, and medical care; obtaining goods and services necessary to maintain health; or managing one's own finances
- ☐ No standardized medical definition for self-neglect
- ☐ Five behaviors are encountered in self-neglect:

- Squalor
- Social withdrawal
- Apathy
- Hoarding
- Lack of shame



Diogenes is the first known case of self-neglect

Significance

- ☐ A serious, under-recognized, growing problem
- ☐ Commonly under-reported
- ☐ Most common problem investigated by Adult Protective Services
- ☐ Symptoms are often treatable
- ☐ Families and friends of individuals with self-neglect may not intervene due to lack of guidance and a desire to avoid the consequences of reporting

Problem

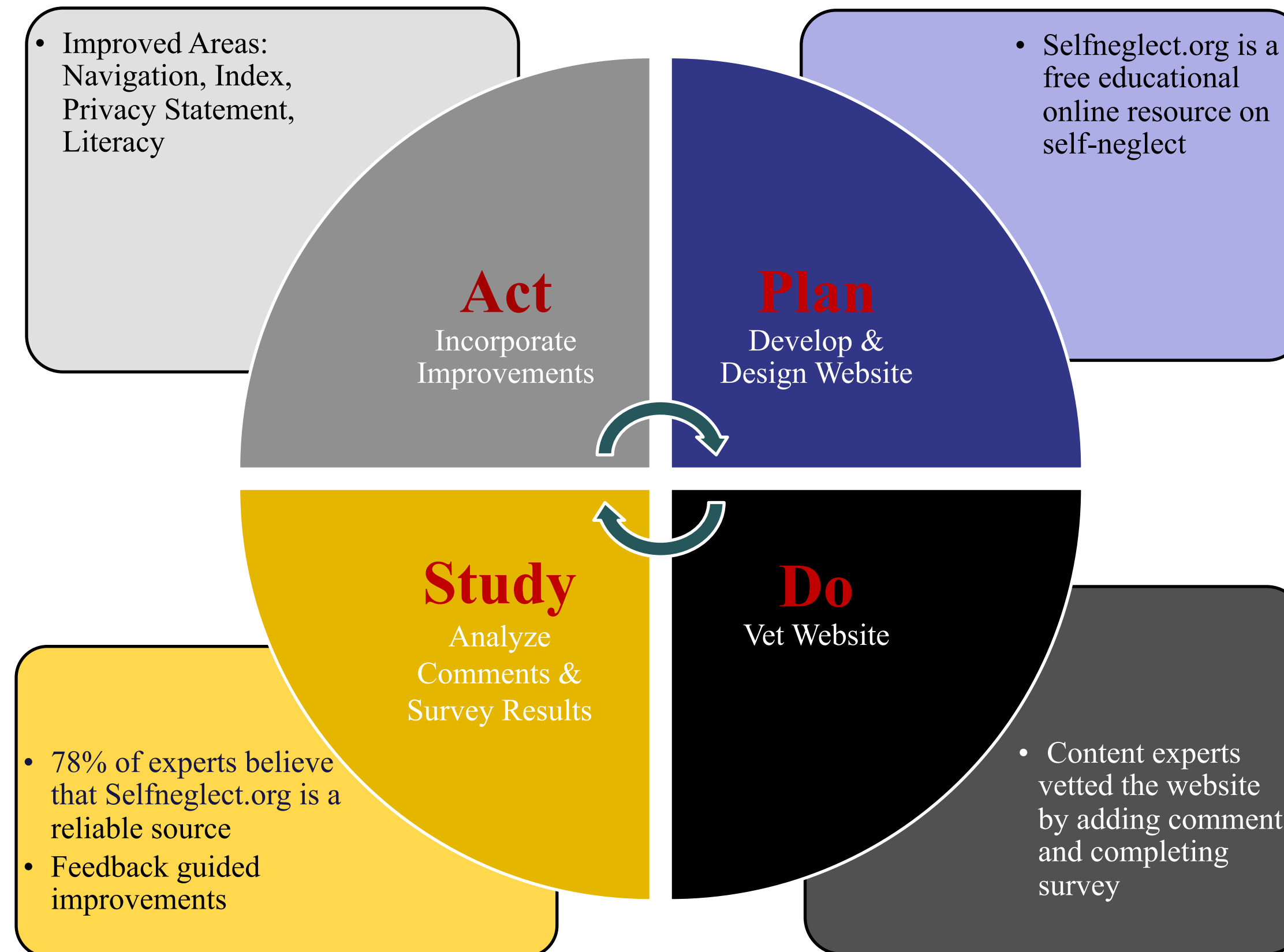
- ☐ No comprehensive websites dedicated exclusively to self-neglect
- ☐ Existing websites list self-neglect under elder abuse
- ☐ Self-neglect data is confidential, impeding epidemiology efforts

Aim

- ☐ To create an educational website - *Selfneglect.org* - for the families/friends of individuals with self-neglect using a Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Cycle
- ☐ Selfneglect.org provides easy to understand information about self-neglect

Methods

- ☐ The content and style of Selfneglect.org was developed according to 2 health information website standards:
 - Lida instrument
 - Health on the Net Code
- ☐ Fifteen criteria from the standards were used to evaluate the website



Results



Discussion

- ☐ Content experts evaluated Selfneglect.org favorably
- ☐ The website is compatible with various platforms such as computers, tablets, and smartphones
- ☐ Selfneglect.org is written at the Flesch-Kincaid 10th grade level
- ☐ The website was released to the public on 2/27/2017
- ☐ The website will be linked to various professional organizations to increase visibility and usage