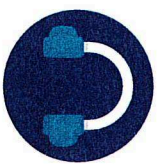


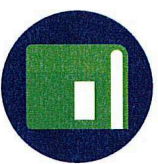
Preventing Elder Abuse in Our Community

Elder Abuse is **preventable** – and everyone has a role to play.

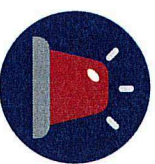
Here are 5 things EVERYONE can do to prevent elder abuse:



1) Listen to older people and caregivers to understand their challenges and provide support



2) Educate one another about the signs of abuse and how to get help



3) Report suspected abuse or neglect as soon as possible



4) Build a community that fosters social connections and supports



5) Reach out to professional services for support where available

Join Us in the Fight Against Elder Abuse.

On June 15 please wear purple to show your support in ending elder abuse and neglect.

Adult Protective Services
715.841.5160
or 855.487.3338 (toll free)



Advocates for Victims
of Domestic and
Sexual Abuse



**National Center
on Elder Abuse**
855-500-3537
ncea.acl.gov

This material was completed for the National Center on Elder Abuse situated at Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California, in partnership with the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and is supported in part by a grant (No. 90ABRC00101-02) from the Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Grantees carrying out projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Therefore, points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official ACL or HHS policy.

Keck School of
Medicine of USC

Building Community Supports to Prevent Elder Abuse



Join Us in the Fight Against Elder Abuse.

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Adult Protective Services**
715.841.5160
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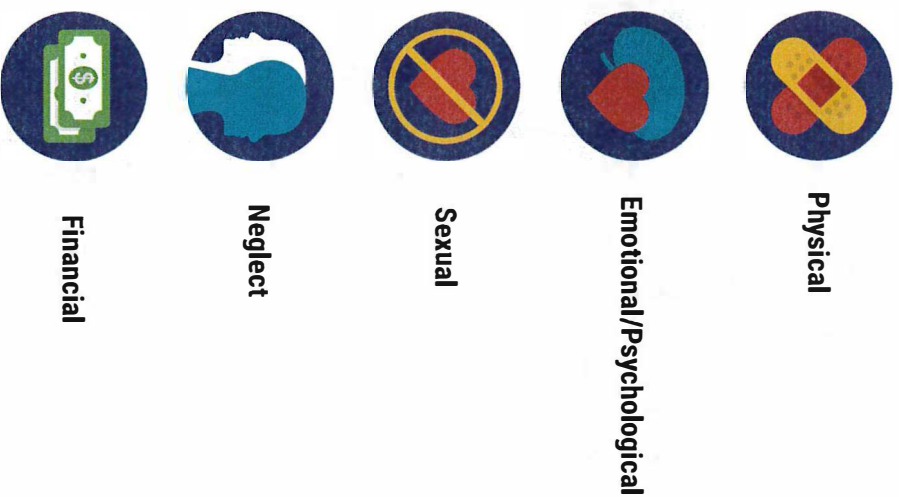


North Central Health Care
Person centered. Outcome focused.

What is Elder Abuse?

Elder Abuse, the mistreatment or harming of an older person, is an injustice that we all need to prevent and address.

Elder Abuse can occur in both community and institutional settings and can take many forms, including:



Physical

Emotional/Psychological

Sexual

Neglect

Financial

Multiple forms of abuse can occur at the same or different times.

What Causes Elder Abuse?

Elder Abuse can occur when strong social supports are not in place to keep us connected as we age. While anyone is potentially at risk of abuse, some factors can increase one's risk of experiencing abuse:

- social isolation
- lack of access to support services and community resources
- physical, mental, or emotional needs in carrying out daily activities

Signs of Elder Abuse

Physical Signs

- Broken bones, bruises, and welts
- Cuts, sores, or burns
- Torn, stained, or bloody underclothing
- Sexually transmitted diseases without clear explanation
- Unsanitary living conditions and poor hygiene
- Unusual weight loss or dehydration
- Unattended medical needs

Emotional/Behavioral Signs

- Unusual changes in behavior or sleep
- Fear or anxiety
- Isolation from friends and family
- Withdrawal from normal activities
- Sadness

Financial Signs

- Unusual changes in a bank account or money management services
- Unusual or sudden changes in a will or other financial documents
- Fraudulent signatures on financial documents
- Unpaid bills

Report suspicions of abuse or neglect as soon as possible!

Reporting Abuse

Remember: Most cases of elder abuse go undetected. Don't assume that someone has already reported a suspicious situation. Programs like Adult Protective Services can help.

Report suspected abuse or neglect in the community setting:

**North Central Health Care
Adult Protective Services
715.841.5160
or 855.487.3338 (toll free)**

Report suspected abuse or neglect in long-term care facilities:

**Nursing Home and CBRFs
1.800.642.6552**

Domestic abuse resources by county:

**Marathon County
The Women's Community
715.842.7323 or 888.665.1234**

**Lincoln County
HAVEN 715.536.1300**

**Langlade County
AVAIL 715.623.5767**

For serious and immediate emergencies, CALL 9-1-1