

Elder Abuse/ Exploitation Prevention

- Stay connected to your community and other people
- Ask family members and friends to check in often
- Develop positive relationships with caregivers and guardians
- Maintain an active and healthy lifestyle
- Screen individuals that have been hired for in-home care
- Execute a durable power of attorney
- Do not sign blank checks and allow another person to fill in the amount
- Ask caregivers or helpers for receipts of purchases made on your behalf
- Always use a shredder to destroy documents
- Send duplicate bank statements to a trusted family member
- Obtain a credit score 2-3 times per year
- Keep an inventory of valuable items
- Be wary of internet, telephone, and mail scams

Signs of Elder Abuse/ Exploitation

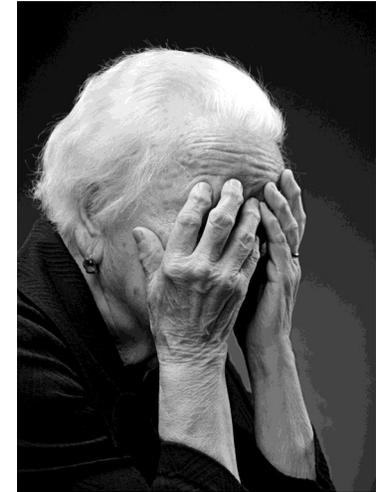
- Sudden changes in behavior and routines without explanation
- Providing inconsistent explanations for mistreatment
- Afraid to speak in the presence of the suspected abuser
- A pattern of missed appointments
- Seeming fearful, timid, embarrassed, confused, ashamed, humiliated, withdrawn, or depressed
- Absence of necessary health equipment
- Improper administration of medication
- Sudden isolation from family and friends
- Unpaid bills
- Increased amount of bounced checks
- Frequent transfers between accounts
- Unexplained withdrawals



Our services are supported by:

*Michigan Department of Health and
Human Services, Division of Victim
Services*

Elder Abuse Services



*For victims and
survivors of older
adult physical,
emotional, sexual
abuse, neglect, and/or
financial exploitation.*



Help is Available...

Services Provided:

- Help with Crime Victim Compensation
- Assistance with the criminal justice process
- Court accompaniment
- Victim notification and rights
- Individual counseling and support
- Education on older adult abuse and financial exploitation
- Safety planning
- Community referrals
- Presentations at agencies, financial institutions, and other organizations
- ALL services are confidential!



Types of Elder Abuse

- Physical – non-accidental use of force against an elderly person that results in physical pain, injury, or impairment.
- Emotional (Verbal) - intimidation through yelling or threats, humiliation, or habitual blaming.
- Psychological (Non-verbal) - ignoring, isolating, or terrorizing an elderly person.
- Sexual - any form of non-consensual physical contact including rape, molestation, or any sexual conduct.
- Neglect - failure of a caregiver to provide appropriate care such as food, shelter, medical care, and personal hygiene.
- Fraud - misuse of an elder's personal checks, stealing cash, forging signatures, and identity theft.
- Scams - announcements of a "prize" that an elder must pay for, phony charities, and investment fraud.

If you know of anyone involved in these situations, please contact us, make a referral, or give them our information

Contact:

Direct: 989.672.1790
Crisis: 1.800.292.3666

Statistics about Elder Abuse

- Approximately 1 in 10 Americans aged 60+ have experienced some form of elder abuse.
- In 60% of elder abuse cases, the perpetrator is a family member.
- 2/3 of perpetrators are adult children or spouses of the victim.
- Elders that are victims of abuse have a 300% higher risk of death when compared to those that have not been mistreated.
- Only 1 in 14 cases of elder abuse are reported to authorities.
- 9.5% of the elderly population will experience some type of abuse.
- Approximately 59% of reported cases are cases of neglect.
- 55% of abuse and neglect victims have dementia.

