



Individuals at Risk

Did you know...

- Between one to two million vulnerable adults are abused or neglected in our country every year.
- For every report of abuse of an older adult or an adult with a disability five reports are not made.
- The abuse can be financial, physical, emotional and sexual, and can also include neglect.
- People over 85 are the fastest growing segment of the population in the United States; this is also the segment most vulnerable to abuse and neglect.
- The number of abuse victims has been rising steadily over the past decade and the rise is expected to continue.
- Most older adults live in their own homes and, therefore, most elder abuse occurs by people known to the vulnerable adult. The vast majority is perpetrated by family members.

Things anyone can do...

- Learn the signs of elder abuse and neglect.
- Call or visit an elderly loved one and ask how he or she is doing.
- Provide a respite break for a caregiver.
- Ask your bank manager to train tellers on how to detect elder financial abuse.
- Ask your doctor to ask you and all other senior patients about possible family violence in their lives.

Fortunately, elder abuse is preventable, but prevention requires research, education, advocacy and public awareness.

Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect

