



ELDER ABUSE ALLIANCE

The Elder Abuse Alliance is a collaborative organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for at risk older



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Types of Elder Abuse

Physical Abuse: Actions that may result in injury, pain or impairment of an elder adult such as striking, slapping, restraining or rough handling.

Psychological Abuse: Actions that cause anguish, fear, feelings of worthlessness or loss of dignity. Examples are insults, threats, humiliation, preventing an elder from making his or her own decisions, obstructing visits by relatives, friends, neighbors or representatives from governmental or social service agencies.

Sexual Abuse: Unwanted touching and/ or contact of a sexual nature without consent. Examples include sexual assault, forced undressing, exposure to pornography, unauthorized taking of nude pictures and intimate physical contact without agreement.

Neglect: Intentional and unintentional failure or refusal to provide care that includes adequate shelter, food, water, access to medication, medical and dental attention or leaving a vulnerable elder adult alone for long periods of time.

Financial Abuse: Misuse or theft of money, property and/ or possessions. Examples include pressure to loan money, wrongful use of a Power of Attorney authority, unauthorized use of debit or credit cards, taking or selling property without permission, withholding information about finances and coercing an elder to sign a document.

Elder Abuse Alliance

Who We Are: The EAA is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that brings together advocates from law enforcement, the legal, financial and medical communities, county and state agencies, service providers, public agencies and private businesses who share an interest in addressing issues of elder abuse in Genesee County.

What We Do: Our primary function is advocating for elders in our community through outreach, networking and education.

Definition of Elder Abuse:

Public Act 519 of 1982 defines abuse, in part, as the harm or threatened harm to an adult's health or welfare caused by another. Elder abuse includes *physical, psychological and/or sexual abuse, neglect and financial exploitation* of a vulnerable, older adult.

What to Do:

To report suspected abuse first contact the **State of Michigan's Centralized Intake Unit at 855-444-3911**. If there is immediate danger, call 911. If a crime may have been committed, in addition to calling Central Intake, contact the **Genesee County Sheriff's Elder Abuse and Exploitation Prevention Unit at 810-257-3422**.

What is the Impact of Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation?

- Elder abuse triples the risk of premature death and causes unnecessary illness, injury, and suffering.
- Victims of elder abuse are four times more likely to be admitted to a nursing home and three times more likely to be admitted to a hospital.
- Financial exploitation causes large economic losses for businesses, families, elders, and government programs, and increases reliance on federal and state health care programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid.
- Older adults with cognitive incapacity suffer significantly greater economic losses than those without such incapacity.
- As a result of providing care for an older adult, some caregivers experience declines of their own physical and mental health.