

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (NNADV)

# Intimate Partner Violence in Later Life



This publication provides basic information for service providers and volunteers working with seniors who want to learn more about intimate partner violence (IPV) in later life and other forms of elder abuse.

Included in this handbook is a definition of IPV in later life, types of IPV and other types of elder abuse, tips for safety planning, reporting procedures, and local, state and national resources.

October 17, 2011

The **Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence** (NNADV) is a statewide organization that was formed in 1980 to work toward the elimination of domestic and sexual violence against all persons and the empowerment of women and children.

NNADV helps Nevada's communities respond creatively and effectively to the needs of domestic violence victims by providing information to service providers in the fields of domestic and sexual violence. In addition, NNADV provides education and advocacy to the general public and actively educates legislators on issues of concern to Nevada families.

For additional information or copies of this booklet, please contact:

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

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775.828.1115 or 1.800.230.1955 statewide

www.nnadv.org

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State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division, Elder Protective Services

The State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division provides Elder Protective Services for persons 60 years of age and older who may experience abuse, neglect, exploitation, or isolation. Elder Protective Services are available throughout Nevada.

"Among our greatest challenges as a nation today is making America a safe place to grow old."

- Lisa Nerenberg

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## WHAT IS INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN LATER LIFE?

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is one form of elder abuse. Every day an elderly person faces abuse by someone they know well and with whom they have an ongoing relationship – a spouse, ex-spouse, or companion (current or ex-boyfriend/girlfriend).

IPV may affect older persons of either sex, any income level, race, cultural or ethnic group, sexual orientation, religion, persons in good health, or those persons with a disability, but older women are likelier than younger women to experience violence for a longer time, to be in current violent relationships and to have health and mental health problems (Wilke, D. & L. Vinton, 2005).

**Intimate Partner Violence and Elder Abuse are Crimes!** Abusers are apt to blame their victims, make excuses for their behavior, or deny wrongdoing. But their behavior can never be justified.

Education and support are vital to older women's safety. Secrecy is an abuser's best protection. Adapted from the <u>National Center on Elder Abuse</u>, (NCEA) 2005.

If elder abuse is suspected, some professions are required by Nevada state law to report abuse to the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) or to local law enforcement agencies. Learn more at the <u>ADSD website</u>.

## HOW COMMON IS INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN LATER LIFE?

- "Women are far more likely than men to be IPV victims and to be injured or murdered by an intimate partner" (Leigh Kimberg, MD, *Intimate Partner Violence*, 2006.)
- IPV among elders "...is primarily family abuse. Studies repeatedly show that the overwhelming majority of confirmed cases occur in domestic settings" (<u>NCEA</u>, 2005).
- "Abuse of elderly women by their spouses is increasing among the growing 'over 60' demographic in the U.S. Women suffer a higher percentage of physical, emotional, and financial abuse than men do" (Melissa Batt, 2010).
- "In a five-year study done of 1057 victims 65 and over receiving domestic violence program services, 71.2 percent reported physical abuse" (Lundy, Grossman, 2004).
- "A Florida study found that persons age 55 and over had homicide-suicide rates almost twice that of persons under age 55, 75 percent involve a husband who kills his wife before killing himself" (Malphurs, Eisdorfer, Cohen, 2001).
- "More than 60,000 rapes of women older than 50 years of age are reported annually" (<u>NCEA</u>, 2005).

## HOW CAN I TELL IF A SENIOR IS BEING ABUSED?

# With the intention of gaining power and control, does an intimate partner...

- Belittle or call them names, privately or in the presence of others?
- Withhold medications, medical care and food necessary to maintain their health?
- Manipulate or exploit them by misusing their money, assets, and/or their property?
- Accuse them of having affairs and is excessively jealous?
- Make threats which cause them to fear for their safety and/or for the safety of other people or their pets/service animals living in their household?
- Push, shove, hit, kick, burn, or bite them? Restrain them against their will?
- Destroy or steal their personal property or sentimental items?
- Look at or touch them sexually in ways that make them feel uncomfortable? Rape them?
- Isolate them by preventing them from seeing friends, family, visitors, or prevent them from reading mail or talking on the phone?
- Insist that they stop participating in leisure interests?
- Rage out of control and react impulsively?
- Take no responsibility for the abusive behavior and blame others?

### If a senior answers "yes" to any of these questions, they are experiencing abuse.

Survivors of intimate partner violence frequently report that their instincts told them that there was something wrong early on but they disregarded the warning signs and didn't know that these signs were indicative of an abusive relationship. Keeping in touch with a support system and participating in good self-care can lower their risk of being involved in an abusive relationship. To learn more about the Red Flags of Abuse, visit the <u>National Network to End Domestic Violence</u>.

# What puts a senior at risk for intimate partner violence and other forms of elder abuse?

Several factors may increase the risk that someone may hurt an elderly person. However, having these risks does not always mean violence will occur. Some factors include:

- Consuming excessive amounts of drugs/alcohol
- High levels of stress
- Lack of social support from family or friends
- High emotional and financial dependence on the elder person
- Lack of training in taking care of elders
- Depression (<u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u>, 2010).



"If I had only known the signs and symptoms and risks of IPV, I could have made that phone call that could have saved my mother years of emotional distress and financial abuse." - Adult child

## WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP A SENIOR WHO IS BEING ABUSED?

Many cases of intimate partner violence are not reported because seniors are afraid to tell police, friends, or other family about the abuse. Their safety and well being are important. No one deserves to be abused. It is not their fault and they are not alone. Remind the senior that there are people in the community who will listen and believe them, help them plan for their safety and offer resources for support.

### THINGS SURVIVORS CAN DO TO RECEIVE HELP:

If they are in immediate danger, they can call 9-1-1 and get medical care for any injuries. For emergency safety services, support and shelter in English or se habla Español, call the: Nevada Statewide Hotline (1.800.500.1556), or <u>National Domestic Violence Hotline</u> 1.800.799.SAFE (1.800.799.7233) or 1.800.787.3224 (TTY). Hotlines provide crisis intervention, information, referrals and safety planning. Both hotlines are toll-free, confidential, and anonymous and operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They can ask for contact information for a domestic violence program in their area and speak with an advocate who will help them explore options to increase their safety. Services are premised on safety, support, empowerment and options. All services are free and confidential. For a complete list of programs in Nevada, visit the <u>NNADV website</u> or go to page 13.

If they are planning to report the abuse by calling <u>Elder Protective Services</u> or leaving the abusive relationship, tell them that doing so may increase their risk for elevated abuse. Whether they decide to report or not report, stay or leave the relationship for their own safety, they can call a hotline listed above to reach an advocate who can help them create a personalized safety plan.

Elder Protective Services offices are open during normal business hours Monday-Friday, 8:00AM – 5:00PM. Offices are closed for all recognized state holidays. For the Las Vegas/Clark County areas, call 702.486.6930. For all other areas and statewide, call 1.888.729.0571, or the local police department, or sheriff's office.

## SAFETY PLANNING AND SURVIVAL

Once an abusive act takes place in a relationship, violence almost always reoccurs. In fact, it tends to become more severe and more frequent as time goes on. This will happen even when the abuser apologizes and promises to change after an incident. In addition, an abuser will almost always try to isolate the vulnerable elderly person by causing disagreements between them and those who care about the elderly person. Therefore, it is extremely important that the senior should plan on what to do in case of another attack. The safety planning process can start by keeping a journal and meeting with a domestic violence advocate. A list of domestic violence programs in Nevada is located on page 13-16 of this publication or visit the <u>NNADV website</u>.

For more information on safety planning and Orders of Protection, read the <u>Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (NNADV</u>) publication, *Domestic Violence Handbook for Victims and Professionals*, 2010. The handbook is available <u>online</u> or from any of the domestic violence organizations across Nevada. It is available in English and se habla Español.

## WHAT TO DO BEFORE AN ATTACK TO INCREASE SAFETY

**MAKE CONTACTS**...If the senior is feeling ashamed and alone and believes that no one would understand, encourage them to contact a domestic violence advocate. An advocate can provide information, support and emergency assistance. Besides offering shelter, many domestic violence programs offer support groups. These groups offer a safe place to talk about their feelings and experiences in an atmosphere free of judgment. It is also an opportunity to meet and talk with other people who have has similar experiences. Advocates can work with the senior to help them decide what they will do to protect themselves, where they will go and how they will get there the next time abuse occurs. **BE PREPARED**...If the senior thinks they are in an abusive relationship, it is important to make a plan to keep themselves safe. Think of a safety plan like preparing an emergency kit. Hopefully they won't need it but if they do, it could save their life.

Prepare for quick access to a phone, cash, clothing, and important items such as: house keys, passport, driver's license and car title and keys or cab/bus fare, birth certificate, home mortgage or apartment lease, marriage license, public assistance ID,



eyeglasses, medical cards and records, insurance policies, income and other financial records, social security card or numbers for them and their partner, family pictures, address book, mobile phone/coins to use a pay phone, a list of phone numbers to call for emergency shelter or transportation, credit cards, blank checks, bank books, medications with a copy of the prescriptions, a Protection Order, and police records that include reports of violence and immigration papers, if applicable.

If possible, pack an emergency kit in a small container or an old purse so that they can easily and quickly grab it and leave. If they are afraid to keep these essential items together in their home, recommend they consider hiding the items outside the home or leaving them with a trusted friend or other family member.

**PLAN**...Plan what to do in dangerous situations. Tell neighbors about the abuse and have them call the police if they hear noises coming from the senior's home. Avoid rooms with weapons, including the kitchen. Practice safety routes and identify a safe place to go and plan how to get there. Discuss the situation with a domestic violence advocate and if the senior wants, they can assist them with obtaining an Order of Protection. If they decide to obtain an Order of Protection, they should keep a copy with them at all times. Recommend that they trust their instincts; they know what is best for them at that time.

**AFTER LEAVING**...If the abuser has a key or access to a key, change the locks on doors and windows. Increase the police's ability to find the house by having a large visible street address outside the home, obtain a PO Box and

forward all mail to it, ensure utility companies will not give out information to the abuser and make sure they are not followed home. If the abusive partner follows them in the car, recommend they drive to a hospital, fire, or police station and keep honking the horn. If they are working, create a safety plan for leaving work. Recommend they talk with their supervisor and building security and provide a picture of the abuser, if possible and give them a description of the vehicle they drive. If the senior has an Order of Protection, give the security guard or receptionist a copy. Also keep a journal of harassing phone calls and times they have seen the abuser around the house/apartment or neighborhood. Save and/or print any threatening emails and include them in a journal documenting anything that happens between them and the abuser.

**REMEMBER, MOST ABUSERS BECOME MORE VIOLENT**...Even though the senior may be afraid, embarrassed, or even ashamed to act now; their safety may depend upon their willingness to take action. The most dangerous time for any victim of intimate partner violence is when they are planning to leave the relationship, so it is advised to think carefully, explore all options, and meet with a domestic violence advocate to assist them in the safety planning process.





## NEVADA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORGANIZATIONS FOR INFORMATION, SUPPORT & ASSISTANCE

### **CARSON & STOREY COUNTIES**

### **X ADVOCATES TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

PO Box 2529 Carson City NV 89702 Hotline: 775.883.7654 Office: 775.883.7654

### **CHURCHILL COUNTY**

### **X DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION, INC.**

PO Box 2231 Fallon NV 89407 Hotline: 775.427.1500 Office: 775.423.1313

### **CLARK COUNTY**

### **% (TADC) SAFE NEST**

PO Box 43264 Las Vegas NV 89116 Hotline: 702.646.4981 Rural Hotline: 800.486.7282 Office: 702.877.0133

### **CLARK COUNTY**

### **% SAFE HOUSE, INC.**

921 American Pacific Dr. #300 Henderson, NV 89014 Hotline: 702.564.3227 Office: 702.451.4203

### **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

### **% FAMILY SUPPORT COUNCIL**

PO Box 810 Minden NV 89423 Hotline: 775.782.8692 Office: 775.782.7565

### ELKO, EUREKA, & WHITE PINE COUNTIES

### **X COMMITTEE AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

PO Box 2531 Elko NV 89803 Hotline: 775.738.9454 Office: 775.738.6524

### HUMBOLDT COUNTY

### **% WINNEMUCCA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES, INC.**

512 Melarky St. Winnemucca NV 89445 Hotline: 775.421.1028 Office: 775.625.1313

### LANDER COUNTY

### **X COMMITTEE AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

PO Box 624 Battle Mountain NV 89820 Hotline: 775.635.2500

### LYON COUNTY

### **%** A.L.I.V.E.

400-A North Main Yerington NV 89447 Hotline: 800.453.4009 Office: 775.463.5843

### **MINERAL COUNTY**

### **X ADVOCATES TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

PO Box 1613 Hawthorne NV 89415 Hotline: 775.945.2312 Office: 775.945.2472

### NYE, LINCOLN, & ESMERALDA COUNTIES

### **% NO TO ABUSE**

PO Box 2869 Pahrump NV 89048 Hotline: 888.882.2873 Office: 775.751.1118

### **PERSHING COUNTY**

### **X DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION**

PO Box 1203 Lovelock NV 89419 Hotline: 775.273.5111 Office: 775.273.7373

### WASHOE COUNTY

### **% COMMITTEE TO AID ABUSED WOMEN**

1735 Vassar St. Reno NV 89502 Hotline: 775.329.4150 Office: 775.329.4150

### **X A SAFE EMBRACE**

PO Box 3745 Reno NV 89505 Office: 775.322.3466

### **% TAHOE SAFE ALLIANCE**

948 Incline Way Incline Village NV 89451 Hotline: 1.800.736.1060 Office: 775.298.0010

ALL SERVICES PROVIDED BY COMMUNITY-BASED ADVOCACY PROGRAMS ARE PREMISED ON SUPPORT, EMPOWERMENT, OPTIONS AND SAFETY. SERVICES MAY INCLUDE CRISIS INTERVENTION, EMERGENCY SHELTER, SAFETY PLANNING, SUPPORT GROUPS AND LEGAL ASSISTANCE. ALL SERVICES ARE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

## FROM A BROADER PERSPECTIVE, WHAT ARE OTHER TYPES OF ABUSE IN LATER LIFE?

Older people today are more visible, more active, and more independent than ever before. They are living longer and in better health. But as the population of older Americans grows, so does the hidden problem of elder abuse. "In 2003, 565,747 cases of abuse and neglect were reported to adult protective services throughout the United States. This represents a 19.7 percent increase from the 2000 survey" (NCEA, 2004.)



As defined by Nevada Law (<u>NRS 200.5092</u>), "Elder Abuse" is the willful and unjustified infliction of pain, injury or mental anguish; or deprivation of food, shelter, clothing, or services which are necessary to maintain the physical or mental health of an older person.

"Elder Exploitation" is the wrongful use of an older person's money, assets, or property to the advantage of another.

For the purposes of the law, an "older person" is

defined as a person 60 years of age or older.

Elder abuse, like other forms of violence, is never an acceptable response to any problem or situation. Effective interventions can prevent or stop elder abuse. By increasing awareness among physicians, mental health professionals, home health care workers and others who provide services to the elderly and family members, patterns of abuse or neglect can be broken, and both the abused person and the abuser can receive needed help.

# Intimate partner violence and other forms of elder abuse may include the following:

**Physical**: Physical abuse is a powerful way that an abusive person gets and keeps their partner under control and it instills an environment of constant fear. If physical abuse is present early in the relationship, it commonly gets worse over time. If there is no physical abuse in the relationship, it may begin to occur when the victim is considering leaving the relationship (<u>NNEDV</u>.)

Physical violence may include: pushing, shoving, hitting, kicking, burning, biting, slap marks, unexplained bruises and/or lacerations, strangling, smothering, and throwing things, broken bones, rope marks or welts on the wrists and/or ankles, using force to threaten or physically injure an elderly person.

**Psychological or Emotional**: Emotional abuse occurs in some form in all abusive relationships. Using these tactics is effective in maintaining power and control and it may cause extreme damage to the person's self esteem. It may include: verbal attacks, belittling, constant criticism, acting superior, excessive jealousy, watching where they go, "silent treatment", making threats, rejection, and isolation from friends, family, visitors or preventing the person from reading their mail or talking on the phone, and name calling done in private or in the presence of others. Signs of abuse may include withdrawal from normal activities, unusual behavioral changes, acts that cause or could cause mental anguish, pain, or distress to an elderly person. It is so damaging that many survivors of intimate partner violence report that they would rather "be hit" than endure the ongoing psychological damage of emotional abuse.

**Sexual**: Some form of sexual abuse is common in abusive relationships, but it is often the least discussed. The impact on the victim is feelings of shame and humiliation. Sexual abuse may include: looking at or touching the elderly person sexually in ways that make them feel uncomfortable, sexual contact that is forced (rape/sodomy), coerced nudity, or not using protection from sexually transmitted diseases. Signs of sexual abuse may include: bruises around the breasts or genital area, or vaginal/anal bleeding, torn or bloody underwear.

**Financial Abuse/Exploitation:** This form of abuse is one of the least commonly known but one of the most powerful tactics of entrapping a victim in a relationship. It is so powerful that many victims of abuse describe it as the main reason that they stayed in an abusive relationship or went back to one. Some forms of financial abuse include: giving the senior an allowance or not letting them have access to their money, destroying or stealing personal property or sentimental items, fraud, misuse or neglect of authority, sudden change in financial accounts, altered wills or trusts, unusual bank withdrawals, running up debt, unauthorized use of credit cards and ruining the elder's credit, checks written as "loans" or "gifts" or "cash", scams perpetrated by sales people for health-related reasons and use of undue influence as a lever to gain control over an older person's money, other assets, or property. "It is estimated that seniors lose \$2.6 billion or more annually due to financial abuse that could be used for basic needs such as housing, food and medical care" (<u>AARP Bulletin April 2011</u>.)

# From a broader perspective, elder abuse may also include:

**Neglect:** a caregiver's failure to provide for a vulnerable elder's safety, physical, or emotional needs as well as a refusal to provide assistance with the activities of daily living. Signs may include: pressure ulcers; filth; lack of medical care, evidence of malnutrition or dehydration or lack of personal hygiene. This category may also include abandonment which is defined as a desertion of a frail or vulnerable elder by anyone with a duty of care.

**Self-neglect**: an inability to understand the consequences of one's own actions or inaction, which leads to, or may lead to, harm or endangerment. Behaviors may include not eating, not going to the doctor for needed care or alcohol/drug abuse.

## HOW COMMON ARE OTHER TYPES OF ABUSE IN LATER LIFE?

*"Elder Abuse is an under-recognized problem with devastating and even life-threatening consequences."* 

- NCEA, 2005

No one knows for certain how common elder abuse is in the United States because relatively few cases are identified. According to the <u>National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA)</u>, research indicates that more than one in 10 elders may experience some type of abuse, but only one in five cases or fewer are reported. This means that very few seniors who have been abused get the help they need. Nationwide "according to the best available estimates, between 1 and 2 million Americans age 65 or older have been injured, exploited, or otherwise mistreated by someone on whom they depended for care or protection." Regarding sexual assault, "more than 60,000 rapes of women older than 50 years of age are reported annually" (<u>NCEA</u>, 2005.)

Elder abuse can occur anywhere–in a home, in nursing homes, or other institutions. It affects older persons of any sex, income level, race, cultural or ethnic group, sexual orientation, religion, persons in good health, or those persons with a disability.



"Do not forget the hands of the aged; They have touched much of life." - Anonymous

## WHAT CAN I DO TO PREVENT ABUSE IN LATER LIFE?

- The first and most important step toward preventing elder abuse is to recognize that no one of whatever age should be subjected to violent, abusive, humiliating, or neglectful behavior (<u>American Psychological Association</u>).
- Be aware of the possibility of abuse. Make note of what may be happening with older neighbors and acquaintances. Do they seem withdrawn, nervous, fearful, sad, or anxious, especially around certain people, when they have not seemed so in the past?
- Keep in contact with the older person. Maintaining communication will help decrease isolation. It will give them a chance to talk about any problems they may be experiencing.
- If the person is in immediate danger, call 9-1-1. Otherwise, if the person feels that an investigation of the abusive situation would not place them at risk for further abuse or increased danger, they can report suspected elder abuse in Nevada by calling 702.486.6930 for Las Vegas/Clark County; 888.729.0571 statewide/all other areas, or the local police department or sheriff's office. Refer to the next section in this handbook for more information about reporting procedures and services. For their safety, recommend they do not confront the abuser by themselves. The person making the report does not need to prove that abuse is occurring; it is up to the professionals to investigate the suspicions. Don't assume that someone has already reported a suspicious situation. Although a situation may have already been investigated, if you believe circumstances are getting worse, continue to support the person being abused by encouraging them to contact a domestic violence program and speak with an advocate.

- Contact the <u>Nevada Aging and Disability Services Regional Offices</u> and identify local programs and sources of support, such as *Meals on Wheels* and *Senior Centers* and organizations that provide respite care and counseling. These programs provide assistance and support to seniors.
- Volunteer. There are many local opportunities to become involved in programs that provide assistance and support to seniors. For locations in Nevada, contact the <u>Retired Seniors and Volunteer Program (RSVP)</u> and Senior Outreach Services (SOS), <u>Senior Corps – Senior Companion</u> <u>Program</u>, and <u>Special Advocates for Elders (SAFE)</u>.



- Become involved with <u>World Elder Abuse Awareness Day</u> scheduled during the month of June annually. This day provides an opportunity for communities around the world to promote better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect. "Whether the effort is great or small, once a year or throughout, all of these efforts empower us to make long-lasting differences in the lives of vulnerable elders."
- Learn more about elder abuse, call the <u>Nevada Network Against Domestic</u> <u>Violence</u> (NNADV) for a list of resources provided in the Resource Center or visit <u>NCEA</u>.

(Information adapted from NCEA, <u>www.ncea.aoa.gov</u>)

## **ELDER PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

### ELDER ABUSE IS A CRIME!

If the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division Elder Protective Services worker believes that a crime has been committed against an older person, a referral is made to the appropriate law enforcement agency for possible investigation and prosecution.

## Protective services are provided, if the individual is willing to accept these services. Elder Protective Services include:

- Investigation that begins within three working days of being reported
- Evaluation
- Counseling
- Arrangement/Referral to other services

### WHO CAN REPORT A CASE OF ELDER ABUSE?

Any person may report an incident of abuse if they have reasonable cause to believe that an elderly person has been abused, neglected, exploited, or isolated. All information received as a result of a report is confidential.

#### Mandatory reporters must make the report immediately after the event, but no later than 24 hours after there is reason to believe that an elderly person has been abused, neglected, exploited, or isolated.

#### Mandatory reporters include:

- Medical professionals
- Employees of hospitals and home health agencies
- Social workers
- Coroners
- Law enforcement employees
- Adult or juvenile probation officers
- Department of Health and Human Services' employees
- Mortuary or funeral home employees
- Employees of the facilities providing care for the elderly
- Financial institution employees (<u>NRS 657.290</u>)

To report suspected elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, or isolation, call 702.486.6930 for Las Vegas/Clark County; 888.729.0571 statewide and other areas of Nevada. After normal business hours (8:00AM-5:00PM Monday-Friday), contact the local police department or sheriff's office.



### FOR FURTHER HELP, CALL <u>NEVADA AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES</u>:

Carson City Administrative Office 3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132 Carson City NV 89706 775.687.4210; FAX 775.687.4264

Elko Regional Office 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104 Elko NV 89801 775.738.1966; FAX 775.753-8543 Las Vegas Regional Office 1860 East Sahara Avenue Las Vegas NV 89104 702.486.3545; FAX 702.486.3572

Reno Regional Office 445 Apple Street, Suite 104 Reno NV 89502 775.688.2964; FAX 775.688.2969

Website: www.nvaging.net



## NATIONAL RESOURCES

Administration on Aging (AoA) www.aoa.gov

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) www.aarp.org

American Bar Association Commission on Law & Aging www.americanbar.org/groups/law\_aging.html

American Society on Aging www.asaging.org

Amigas Latinas www.amigaslatinas.org

Casa de Esperanza www.casadeesperanza.org/hope-campaign

Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse & Neglect www.centeronelderabuse.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention

Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse & Neglect www.centeronelderabuse.org

Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly (CANE) <u>www.cane.udel.edu</u>

Elder Justice Coalition www.elderjusticecoalition.com

#### **Ethnic Elders Care Network**

www.ethnicelderscare.net

## International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

### Lesbian & Gay Aging Issues Network (LGAIN)

www.asaging.org

#### Medicaid Fraud Control Units (MFCU)

In Nevada, report suspected fraud to the Attorney General's Hotline 1.800.266.8688

### National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA)

www.naela.org

### National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA)

www.apsnetwork.org

## National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators (NAAPSA)

www.naapsa.org

## National Association of Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Directors, Inc. (NARSVP)

www.narsvp.org

National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) <u>www.nasuad.org</u>

## National Center on Elder Abuse, Center for Community Research & Service (NCEA)

#### www.ncea.aoa.gov; ncea@nasua.org

This organization serves as a national resource for elder rights advocates, adult protective services, law enforcement and legal professionals, medical and mental health providers, public policy leaders, educators, researchers, and

concerned citizens. It is the mission of NCEA to promote understanding, knowledge sharing, and action on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Resources for Professionals including an Elder Abuse Awareness Kit

### National Clearinghouse on Elder Abuse

www.ncea.aoa.gov

National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL) www.ncall.us

National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA) www.preventelderabuse.org

### National Council on the Aging

www.ncoa.org

### National Family Caregiver Support Program (NCFSP)

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA\_Programs/HCLTC/Caregiver/index.aspx

### National Fraud Information Center

www.fraud.org

### National Hispanic Council on the Aging

www.nhcoa.org

## National Indian Council on Aging Inc. (NICA)

www.nicoa.org

### National Institute on Aging

www.nia.nih.gov

### National Institute of Justice

www.ojp.usdoj.gove/nij/topics/crime/elder-sabuse/welcome.htm

### National Resource Center for American Indian, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiian Elders

elders@uaa.alaska.edu

### National Resource Center on LGBT Aging www.lgbtagingcenter.org

National Sexual Violence Resource Center www.nsvrc.org

Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), U.S. Department of Justice <u>www.usdoj.gov/ovw</u>

Older Women's League (OWL) www.owl-national.org

Sacred Circle National Resource Center to End Violence Against Women <u>www.sacred-circle.com</u>

Stalking Resource Center www.ncvc.org/src

### A word about computer and internet safety...



If you suspect that a senior may be a victim of intimate partner violence in later life or a victim of other forms of elder abuse and the senior wishes to learn more about these topics, please recommend they try to use a safer computer, i.e., a computer that the abusive person does not have direct or remote access to.

If the senior thinks they may be monitored on their home computer, remind them to be careful how they use their computer since an abuser might become suspicious. The senior may want to keep using the monitored computer for innocuous activities, like checking the weather forecast. If they feel their activities may be monitored, always use a safer computer to research intimate partner violence in later life and elder abuse, or look for local resources, or ask for help. It might be safer to use a computer in a public library, or a computer in a trusted friend or other family member's house, or internet café.

For more information on technology safety, visit the <u>National Network to End</u> <u>Domestic Violence</u> website.



## STATEWIDE & NATIONAL RESOURCES

Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline 1.800.500.1556

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1.800.799.7233 (TTY) 1.800.787.3224

www.ndvh.org

### National Sexual Assault Hotline

1.800.656.HOPE (4673)

www.rainn.org

### **Elder Abuse Helplines and Hotlines**

1.800.677.1116 For emergencies, always call 9-1-1, or local police or sheriff's office.

### Elder Abuse is a Crime!

To report suspected elder abuse in Nevada; call 702.486.6930 for Las Vegas/Clark County; 888.729.0571 statewide/all other areas, or the local police department or sheriff's office.

For more information on reporting, visit <u>www.nvaging.net/protective\_svc.htm</u>.

### **Nevada Community Resources**

For free, confidential information & referrals for resources in your community, call 2-1-1; <u>www.nevada211.org</u>

Call 7-1-1 for people with hearing/speech disabilities.

Language translation is available.



## LOCAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

