



Abuse in Later Life Resources

Women of Color Network
Leadership Academy

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What is Elder Abuse?

Elder abuse affects seniors across all socio-economic groups, cultures, and races. Latin@ communities are no exception.

- It is estimated that 820,000 to 2.5 million incidents of elder abuse are reported each year. However, for every reported incident of abuse, there are many older adults that suffer in silence.
- Most offenders are spouses, partners, family members, caregivers and other persons in a relationship where the victim and society expect compassion and caring.
- There are specific factors that may get in the way of reporting the abuse of Latin@ older adults:
 - Reliance on the family and the shame or fear of reporting family members
 - Language barriers
 - Immigration status



Abuse is more than just physical harm. Recognize the warning signs:

- **Financial Exploitation**
 - Example: forcefully convincing an older adult to sign a check or will
 - Warning Signs: valuable items, like jewelry, go missing without an explanation, discrepancy between standard of living and available assets
- **Emotional/Psychological Abuse**
 - Example: Preventing an older adult from speaking with family
 - Warning Signs: withdrawn behavior, fearful around certain people
- **Physical Abuse**
 - Example: Slapping, hitting, punching, burning, choking, and throwing things, being rough with intimate body parts during care giving
 - Warning Signs: unexplained injuries, visiting multiple doctors for same condition
- **Abandonment and Neglect**
 - Example: desertion by an individual with responsibility to care for an older adult
 - Warning Signs: poor hygiene, lost weight, malnourishment

Show respect for our *abuelitos* by learning the warning signs of elder abuse, sharing that information with your family and friends, and supporting an older adult who is experiencing the abuse by helping them learn about their rights and available resources. Remember that older adults are entitled to make their own decisions and we need to be respectful of that. There are some instances however, when older adults may be incapacitated, such as individuals living with dementia. In these situations, it is important to report the abuse. Educating and empowering our families builds on the strength of our Latin@ culture and is one of the best ways to end the abuse of older adults. People stand ready to provide help, regardless of age, English proficiency and immigration status.

If you believe an older adult is being abused, the **National Domestic Violence Hotline** has Spanish speaking advocates available around the clock at **1-800-799-SAFE**.

For more information about elder abuse, visit the **National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)** at: www.ncall.us

Elder abuse can happen to anyone.

What are the warning signs?

Elder abuse affects seniors across all socio-economic groups, cultures, and races. The abuse of older adults is a serious problem and victims may feel alone or like they have nowhere to go for help. Most offenders are spouses, partners, family members, caregivers and other persons in a relationship where the victim and society expect compassion and caring. Elder abuse can take many forms:

- **Financial Abuse** happens when people (including loved ones) pressure older adults to give them money.
What to look for: irregular bank withdrawals, lack of affordable amenities.
- **Emotional Abuse** happens when older adults are intimidated or scared to do the things they enjoy doing. No one should have to live in fear or feel threatened.
What to look for: changed eating patterns, fear, passivity, isolated from family and friends.
- **Sexual Abuse** is defined as non-consensual sexual contact of any kind with an elderly person. Sexual contact with any person incapable of giving consent is also considered sexual abuse. Forcing someone to watch something of a sexual nature against their will is sexual abuse.
What to look for: torn or stained clothing, reported abdominal pain, emotional distress.
- **Physical Abuse** is when someone causes pain or injury to another person. Older adults deserve to live without violence. Physical abuse can have long lasting effects.
What to look for: unexplained falls or injuries, signs of physical restraint, etc.
- **Neglect** happens when the person that is meant to care for an older adult avoids this responsibility.
What to look for: poor hygiene, lost weight, malnourishment, isolation.

No matter how the abuse of older adults happens, it is wrong. Help is available regardless of immigration status and English proficiency. If you or someone you know is being hurt, you could find ways to get help, even if you cannot prove the abuse. Someone is available by phone around the clock and eager to provide help for everyone, in both Spanish and English. Getting help to end the abuse of older adults is the right thing to do. No one deserves to live in fear!

- If you or someone you know is being abused, the **National Domestic Violence Hotline** has Spanish speaking advocates available around the clock at **1-800-799-SAFE**
- For more information about elder abuse, visit the **National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)** at: www.ncall.us



The Facts on Abuse of Older Adults

Elder abuse affects seniors across all socio-economic groups, cultures, and races. Elder abuse can take many forms. It is important to be aware of these warning signs:

- Financial Exploitation
 - Example: forcefully convincing an older adult to sign a check or will, controlling the older adult's assets against their will
 - Warning Sign: valuable items, like jewelry, missing without explanation, discrepancy between standard of living and available assets
- Emotional/Psychological Abuse
 - Example: preventing an older adult from speaking with family, threatening to leave her/him, threatening to commit suicide, humiliating, ridiculing, taking walker, wheelchair, glasses and/or dentures
 - Warning Sign: withdrawn behavior, fearful around certain people
- Physical Abuse
 - Slapping, hitting, punching, burning, choking, and throwing things, being rough with intimate body parts during care giving
 - Warning Sign: unexplained injuries, visiting multiple doctors for same type of condition
- Sexual Abuse
 - Example: tricking an older adult into non-consensual sexual contact of any kind
 - Warning Sign: torn, stained, or bloody clothes, bruising on neck, thighs, genital injuries
- Abandonment and Neglect
 - Example: desertion by an individual with responsibility to care for an older adult
 - Warning Sign: poor hygiene, lost weight, malnourishment

Who are the perpetrators? Sadly, many victims have ongoing, trusting relationships with abusers, such as spouse/life partner, adult children, other family members, caregivers, and fiduciaries. The abuse often occurs in the person's home (a private dwelling in the community or an institution, such as a nursing facility.)

Reports of Elder Abuse. The number of annual reported incidents of abuse of older adults in the United States range from 820,000 to 2.5 million. However, for every incident of abuse that is reported, there are many older adults that suffer in silence. The following are some of the factors that complicate the reporting of elder abuse for Latin@ older adults:

- Reliance on the family and the shame or fear of reporting family members
- Language barriers
- Immigration status
- Lack of information about their rights or available services

There is no need to prove an older adult is being abused to help them get the resources they need. Age, immigration status, limited English proficiency and sexual and gender identity are not barriers to helping older adults age with dignity and free from violence.

If you believe an older adult is being abused, help them learn about their rights and available resources and be supportive of her/him through the process. Remember that older adults are entitled to make their own decisions and we need to be respectful of that. There are some instances, however, when older adults may be incapacitated, such as individuals living with dementia. In these situations, it is important to report the abuse.

The **National Domestic Violence Hotline** has Spanish speaking advocates available around the clock at **1-800-799-SAFE** that can provide the older adult with a number of options and available resources.

For more information about elder abuse, visit the **National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)** at: www.ncall.us

If there are issues regarding immigration status, inquire about special immigration remedies for victims of crime through the U visa or the Self-Petition under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)



Victim-Centered Safety Planning Key Considerations for Professionals Working with Older Survivors of Abuse

What is Safety Planning?

Safety planning is a process where a worker and a victim jointly create a plan to enhance the individual's personal safety. The safety plan is victim driven and centered. It is based on the victim's goals, not the professional's opinions and recommendations.

Remember That a Safety Plan, Regardless of How Well Thought Out, is Not a Guarantee of Safety.

Who Can Benefit From Safety Planning?

Safety planning can benefit a victim who is living in fear or being physically or sexually abused. Some victims who are being financially exploited or neglected may find safety planning useful while others may need other case management remedies to address their situation. The process can provide useful strategies for victims who choose to maintain relationships with abusers; those who leave and return to abusers; or those who end the relationship permanently.

Guiding Principles

- Respect the integrity and authority of victims to make their own life choices.
- Hold perpetrators, not victims, accountable for the abuse and for stopping their behavior. Avoid victim blaming questions and statements.
- Take into consideration victims concepts of what safety and quality of life mean.
- Recognize resilience and honor the strategies that victims have used in the past to protect themselves.
- Redefine success—success is defined by the victim, not what professionals think is right or safe.

Evaluating Risks

When safety planning with survivors of abuse, consider both batterer generated risks and life generated. These forms of risk will impact the choices survivors will feel are available to them.

- Batterer generated risks are the tactics abusive individuals use to control victims. Batterer-generated risks may include: 1) physical injury, 2) psychological harm, 3) health risks, 4) financial harm, 5) risk to or about family and friends, 6) loss of relationship, and 7) risks involving arrest or legal status.
- Life-generated risks are aspects of a victim's life that a person may have little control over. "These can include financial, home location, physical and mental health, inadequate responses by major social institutions, and discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or other bias."

For more information about evaluating risks and how to create safety plans based on this type of risk assessment, see "Safety Planning with Battered Women: Complex Lives/Difficult Choices" by Jill Davies, Eleanor Lyon and Diane Monti-Cantania (1998).

Increased Danger for Victims Who End Relationships

Ending a relationship or leaving an abuser can increase the possibility of serious injury due to retaliation or death. Indicators of potential danger may include weapons in the home, a history of or escalation of violence, or suicidal comments by abuser. Offenders who fear they are losing control over their victims' lives and resources may become more dangerous.

Assistance Must Not, and Cannot Be Forced Upon an Individual

Additional Considerations

General Issues

- Ask if the victim has any need of or responsibility for caretaking.
- Determine if culture, language, religion, sexual orientation or legal status is preventing the victim from accepting help or accessing resources.
- Ask if the individual resides in congregate living. If yes, are staff a resource or source of potential retaliation?

- Is the victim willing to consider staying at a domestic violence shelter? Are the domestic violence shelters accessible? Are they willing to accept victims who do not have children, or may be parenting grandchildren rather than birth children? Can they accommodate persons with medical needs or with a caregiver?

Cultural Considerations

Cultural values impact safety planning. Learn about cultural norms in various communities to work effectively with older adults who will bring their own perspective to the safety planning process.

A cultural guide may be a helpful way to learn more about cultures in your community. Try to find someone who is from the community is willing to assist in the process, understands the dynamics of abuse and is aware of the importance of the confidentiality. Using a friend or family member can be dangerous, as they may, whether intentional or not, pass information on to the abusive individual.

Key Messages for Victims

- No one deserves to be abused.
- I am concerned about you.
- You are not alone.
- Help is available.

Victim Mobility

Victims with mobility issues may need to discuss additional accommodations when safety planning. Some issues to consider:

- Consider how the abuser may use a person's physical limitations against him or her as an abusive tactic.
- Can the victim carry a cell phone at all times to call 911 in an emergency?
- What accommodations and medical/assistive equipment will the victim need if not living at home?
- Consider adaptations to the individual's home that might make it safer and easier to escape from in a dangerous incident.
- Keep in mind issues such as spare batteries and backup assistive devices and food for services animals will need to be considered for some victims.

For more information about safety planning visit NCALL's website www.ncall.us. Also visit the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence website for "*Model Protocol on Safety Planning for Domestic Violence Victims with Disabilities*" [click here](#).

Victim Capacity

During the intake and safety planning process, consider the victim's capacity to create and follow the steps of a safety plan. The worker should presume capacity, but if seems possible that the older adult may not be able to track information, contact health care providers who may be able to assist with a capacity assessment. When working with persons who have capacity limitations to create a safety plan, consider the following:

- Follow the victim's wishes as much as possible.
- Consider if the victim can follow a simplified plan with one or two steps such as "If I am afraid, I will call my sister Sara at _____"
- Consider whether the victim has a support network of family, friends, or paid staff who can assist with developing and implementing the safety plan.
- Consider whether a written plan or one with pictures is more effective.
- If offering a cell phone, be sure the person knows how to charge and use the phone. Consider having the phone programmed to 911.
- Safety planning may take more time with a person with cognitive limitations. A person's ability to track the plan may change over time and may need frequent updating.

For more information, see "*Safety Planning: How You Can Help*" at www.ncall.us

Technology and Safety Planning

Technology can be a useful tool for survivors of domestic & sexual violence, however it is important to consider how technology might be misused. If an abusive individual seems to know too many details regarding the victim's whereabouts, it is possible that phone, computer, email or other activities are being monitored.

- Work with survivors on how to use technology safely.
- Have emergency cell phones available for survivors to use in case of emergency and make sure an older victim is comfortable using a cell phone.
- Consider preprogramming the cell phone to call 911.
- Assure the cell phone works in the area where the victim lives.

For more information regarding technology and safety planning, see the publication from the National Network to End Domestic Violence, "Technology Safety Planning with Survivors" available at: www.endabuse.org/health/ejournal/archive/1-3/NNEDV_TechSafetyPlan.pdf

Worker Issues

- Be aware, alert, and wary. Plan for your own safety when you enter someone's home.
- Be sure other staff knows your location. Keep your cell phone handy.
- If you are concerned about your personal safety, contact law enforcement to accompany you on the home visit.
- Avoid colluding with charming or sympathetic abusers. Focus on victim safety.

Success is:

listening and having the speaker feel heard

offering non-judgmental support and information

providing resources to enhance a sustainable safety net

seeing victims find their way so they trust and use their abilities to



Guiding Principles on Working with Older Survivors of Abuse

- Believe the victim. Even if the victim says other things that seem unlikely, begin by assuming the older individual has been harmed or has experienced trauma at some point. If you have concerns about dementia, depression, or delirium, contact a health care provider.
- Do not assume that stress, dysfunctional family communication, anger management, or substance abuse are the cause of the suspected abuse. Assume it is power and control unless/until proven otherwise. Focus on victim safety and avoid colluding with the abuser.
- Identify the victim's strengths and skills and build upon them.
- The victim should have an opportunity to talk about her personal beliefs and values and how these beliefs impact her decisions and ultimately her safety.
- Offer hope. Focus on offering strategies that promote victim safety; break isolation; support the victim's decisions; and provide additional information.
- Recognize and respect cultural and religious differences. Language barriers and value differences may create challenges. Understand and acknowledge the importance of holidays and rituals from a variety of traditions.
- Recognize that the victim may want to maintain the relationship and help the abuser.
- The victim may have previously reached out for help without success. Some victims may not trust workers or their suggestions initially. Take time to build a relationship with the victim.
- Offer as many options as possible, without overwhelming the victim. Give accurate information about services (e.g., waiting lists, eligibility requirements). Do not promise more than you can deliver.

National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)

A Project of Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence

307 S. Paterson St., Suite 1, Madison, Wisconsin 53703-3517

Phone: 608-255-0539 • Fax/TTY: 608-255-3560 • www.ncall.us • www.wcadv.org

- Support any decision the victim makes: staying, leaving, or leaving and returning to an abusive relationship.
- Understand that some proposed interventions may make things worse (temporarily or permanently) and could compromise the victim's safety (e.g., calling law enforcement if the abuser works for the police; talking to faith-community leaders if the abuser is a pastor/rabbi, or other spiritual leader; involving the legal system if the victim is undocumented).
- Do not make statements that blame the victim or imply the victim is responsible for the abuse or for not stopping it (e.g., "What did you do to cause him to get angry?" or "Don't you know that pushes her buttons?")
- Avoid labeling the victim as co-dependent, uncooperative, weak, or helpless. These labels do not promote victim safety or empowerment.
- When domestic abuse is present, couples or family counseling and anger management classes are not recommended by experts in the domestic violence field until the perpetrator has successfully completed a batterer's intervention program. Definitions of successful completion vary, although many older women consider increased safety and improved quality of life as indicators of success. If couples or family counseling is considered, a therapist or counselor highly knowledgeable about domestic violence in later life should be sought out.
- Treat older victims as adults, with respect and kindness. Do not treat them as children by doing too much for them, talking to others about them while they are present or making decisions for them.
- Acknowledge how difficult it is when older parents are abused by an adult child.
- Acknowledge how difficult it must be to consider ending a 40, 50 or 60-year relationship.
- Be creative.
- Take care of yourself.

VICTIM INDICATORS OF ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION

If an older individual is displaying some of the signs listed below, investigate further to determine if elder abuse, neglect or exploitation is occurring. Pay particular attention to reported changes in the older individual's behavior.

Victim signs can include but are not limited to:

A. General Behavior Indicators

- Suddenly withdraws from routine activities.
- Is afraid to speak in the presence of the suspect or looks to the suspect to answer questions.
- Is confined (e.g. tied to furniture or locked in a room).
- Is isolated.
- Denies, minimizes, or blames self for what has happened, is hesitant to discuss, or gives “coded” disclosures – such as “my son has a temper.”
- Changes in behavior without explanation.
- Waits or fails to seek out help or medical treatment, misses appointments, or frequently changes doctors or hospitals.
- Visits hospital or physician with vague complaints such as anxiety, headaches, or digestive problems.
- Provides implausible or inconsistent explanations about what has occurred.
- Appears afraid, embarrassed, ashamed, withdrawn, or depressed.
- Reports being abused neglected or exploited.

B. Indicators of Physical Abuse

- Bruises, black eyes, welts, lacerations, and rope marks.
- Bone fractures, broken bones, and skull fractures.
- Open wounds, cuts, punctures, untreated injuries.
- Sprains, dislocations, and internal injuries/bleeding.

- Broken eyeglasses/frames, physical signs of being subjected to punishment, and signs of being restrained.
- Laboratory findings of a medication overdose or under utilization of prescribed drugs.
- Injuries in various degrees of healing.
- Patterned injuries caused by an object.
- Injuries NOT in locations normally associated with accidental injuries such as: on the outside of arms, inside of legs, scalp, around throat, face, soles of feet, inside mouth, on or behind the ears, on the trunk, genitalia, and buttocks.
- Repeated, unexplained, or untreated injuries.

C. Indicators of Sexual Abuse

- Infections, pain, or bleeding in genital areas.
- Difficulty walking or sitting.
- Torn, stained, and/or bloody clothing, including underwear, bedding, or furnishings.
- Inappropriate (enmeshed) relationship between older adult and suspect.
- Bruises to outer arms, chest, mouth, genitals, abdomen, pelvis, or inside thighs.
- Bite marks.
- Unexplained STDs or HIV.
- Coded disclosures such as “I might be pregnant” or “He makes me do bad things.”

D. Indicators of Neglect

- Dehydration or malnutrition.
- Presence of untreated bedsores (pressure ulcers).
- Under, over, or mis-medicating an older adult. (Look for victim’s behavior or if the amount of medication available does not match the prescription.)
- Leaving an older adult in feces, urine.
- Failure to follow recommended turning procedures for older adults who are bedridden.
- Poor hygiene.
- Failure to take older adult to medical appointments, hospital.
- Unexplained changes in older adult’s weight or cognition.
- Inappropriate clothing for conditions.
- Filthy bedding, clothing.
- Dirty or unused bathroom, kitchen.
- Broken, or absence of, needed medical equipment, aids such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, walkers, wheelchairs.

E. Indicators of Financial Exploitation

- The older adult is unaware of monthly income and bills.
- Important possessions, documents or credit cards are missing.
- Many bills are unpaid.
- The caregiver refuses to spend the older adult's money on the older adult.
- The older adult has given many expensive gifts to the caregiver.
- Checks are made out to cash.
- The caregiver asks or coerces an older adult to sign a blank check and then the caregiver misuses the check or steals the money.

Outreach Strategies for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocates

Reaching Out to Older Victims and Survivors of Abuse

Create Materials on Abuse in Later Life

- Include diverse images of older individuals on written materials addressing domestic abuse and sexual assault.
- List phone numbers of services for older adults and elder abuse/adult protective services on resource materials.
- When developing materials about domestic abuse or sexual assault in later life, consider using a larger font, an easy to read font, and color contrast to improve readability.
- Include articles on abuse in later life in agency newsletters.
- Create placemats to be used at meal sites and by meals on wheels containing information about abuse in later life.
- Use language that is comfortable for older people. Phrases such as “domestic violence,” “sexual assault,” and “elder abuse” may not connect with older adults. Describing specific forms of abuse such as withholding medicine, refusing to let you go out with friends, putting you on an allowance etc., often resonates with older adults more than professional jargon.

Facilitate Presentations on Abuse in Later Life

- Include examples of older victims in presentations about general domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Invite older survivors to participate on survivor panels.
- Facilitate presentations on abuse and available services at events where seniors gather such as meal sites. Ideally have several trainers from different disciplines.
- Talk to audiences of older adults as if they might be victims or may know older victims. Do not focus on discussing domestic violence or sexual assault as if it might only happen to their daughters or granddaughters.

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- After presentations, stay and join activities or visit to build relationships.
- Organize “Safety in Your Home” sessions that include information on abuse in later life.

Attend Events Where Older Individuals Gather

- Host a booth at events where older individuals gather offering information on abuse in later life and give-away items.
- Purchase give-away items (e.g., pens, magnets, magnifying glasses) that have contact information for APS, domestic abuse programs, victim advocacy, and aging services along with other aging network services phone numbers so an abuser will not get suspicious.

Make Your Agency Accessible and Welcoming for Older Adults

- Display information in your office that would be useful for older victims (information on Social Security, pensions, and aging services; for aging services and APS, information on abuse in later life).
- Create a service directory of resources for older victims of abuse in your community.
- Display images of older individuals in your office.
- Wear a button or have a sign in your office stating that you are someone who listens to questions about abuse.

Build Relationships with Professionals from Other Disciplines to Increase Referrals

- Organize cross-training of domestic abuse and sexual assault victim advocates, aging services, and APS staff.
- Organize training for other allied professionals like law enforcement, prosecutors, Judge’s, health care professionals, and Faith communities.
- Organize brown bag lunches with other professionals who work with older victims to network and discuss successes and challenges.
- Provide information on abuse in later life at elder abuse and aging conferences and events.
- Develop a media campaign addressing abuse in later life (e.g., organize a breakfast for reporters; draft press releases).

- Invite APS and aging services professionals to participate on family violence councils.
- Provide training on abuse in later life to individuals who may have in contact with abuse victims (e.g., meals on wheels volunteers, drivers, beauticians, utility meter readers, postal carriers, dentists).
- Participate in statewide efforts focused on abuse in later life (either through statewide coalitions or Department on Aging).
- Join the Board of Directors of a local nonprofit focusing on issues related to seniors.
- Volunteer at a local aging network agency.
- Apply for funding with other organizations to create services for older victims of abuse.
- Organize a fatality review team for elder abuse cases.
- Organize training models and create materials addressing abuse in later life for justice professionals (law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and probation and parole).
- Organize training modules and create materials addressing abuse in later life for health care providers, including nursing home staff.
- Organize training modules and create materials addressing abuse in later life for substance abuse service providers, mental health service providers, and the faith-based community.
- Invite older victims/survivors to tell their story on panels, video-taped, or in writing. Always keep victim safety in mind.
- Research abuse in nursing homes, assisted living, and other regulated facilities in your area. Offer to provide training to staff on identifying and responding to abuse.
- Collaborate with disabilities specialists working with older victims that may be blind, hard of hearing, Deaf, have a physical disability, cognitive limitations, or psychiatric disabilities.
- Provide information to beauty parlors, dentists, and massage therapists.
- Ride along with meals on wheels volunteers or public health officials if abuse is suspected

Enhance Public Awareness

- Write articles for your state medical journal, state bar association journal, and local newspapers and newsletters.
- Display information regarding abuse in later life and the services available senior services vans, taxis, buses, or other public transportation.
- Organize activities for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15.
- Include older victims in activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October) and Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April) and National Victims Rights Week (April).
- Distribute materials where older people gather. Put up posters in clinics frequented by older patients, beauty parlors, grocery stores, and senior centers.
- For radio and television public awareness messages, use market research to determine times and shows older people frequently listen to or watch. Target public service announcements and/or advertising during these shows, specifically mentioning abuse in later life.
- Appear on talk shows or news programs that older people watch or listen to and discuss abuse in later life.
- Approach print media who specialize in aging issues and ask them to do a story on older victims of abuse.



Resources on Elder Abuse and Abuse in Later Life

Elder Abuse Websites

- National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL) www.ncall.us
- National Center on Elder Abuse: www.ncea.aoa.gov
- National Adult Protective Services Association: www.apsnetwork.org
- Long Term Care Ombudsman: <http://www.ltombudsman.org/>

Aging/Culturally Specific Websites

- National Hispanic Council on Aging: <http://www.nhcoa.org/>
- National Institute on Aging: <http://www.nia.nih.gov/>
- National Institute on LGBT Aging: <https://www.lgbtagingcenter.org/>
- National Indian Council on Aging: <http://nicoa.org/>
- Administration on Aging: <http://www.aoa.gov/>
- National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families & Communities/Casa de Esperanza: <https://www.casadeesperanza.org/resources/elder-abuse/>
- National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women (VAWnet) <http://www.vawnet.org/search-results.php?filterby=elder+abuse&search.x=0&search.y=0>
- Women of Color Network http://womenofcolornetwork.org/docs/factsheets/fs_elder-abuse.pdf

NCALL (www.ncall.us) for information on:

- Definitions and dynamics: <http://ncall.us/content/dynamics-all>
- Working with older survivors: <http://ncall.us/content/working-older-victims>
- Creating services for older adults for domestic violence and sexual assault advocates: <http://ncall.us/content/creatingservices>
- Mandatory reporting for advocates: <http://ncall.us/content/mr>
- Training information: <http://ncall.us/content/training-materials>
- NCALL national resource directory: <http://ncall.us/content/national-directory>

Additional Packets and Toolkits

- *Where Faith and Safety Meet: Faith Communities Respond to Elder Abuse* (2011) Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence. Toolkit available at <http://www.interfaithpartners.org/elderhome.html>

- *Sexual Violence in Later Life Research Brief* (2010). National Sexual Violence Resource Center. Packet available at <http://www.nsvrc.org/publications/nsvrc-publications/sexual-violence-later-life-research-brief>.

Selected Videos

- *In Their Own Words: Domestic Abuse in Later Life* (2010). Produced by NCALL, Terra Nova Films and Office of Victims of Crime. To order contact Office of Victims of Crime at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>
- *Responding to Elder Abuse: What Community Corrections Should Know* (2010); *Responding to Elder Abuse: What Judges and Court Personnel Should Know* (2010) and *Responding to Elder Abuse: What Law Enforcement Should Know* (2010). To order contact Office of Victims of Crime at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>.
- *A Mother Never Gives Up Hope: Older Mothers and Abusive Adult Sons* (2009). Produced by NCALL and Terra Nova Films/ To order contact Terra Nova Films at <http://www.terranova.org>.
- *An Age for Justice* (2009). Produced by the National Council on Aging and WITNESS. Available at www.witness.org/store.

Prevalence and Incidence Studies

- *Under the Radar, New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study Self-Reported Prevalence and Documented Case Surveys* (2011)
<http://www.lifespan-roch.org/documents/UndertheRadar051211.pdf>
- *Prevalence and Correlates of Emotional, Physical, Sexual and Financial Abuse and Potential Neglect in the United States: The National Elder Mistreatment Study* (2009)
http://ajph.aphapublications.org/cgi/search?sortspec=relevance&author1=Acierno&fulltext=Elder+Mistreatment&pubdate_year=2010&volume=&firstpage= or
<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/226456.pdf>

National Policy

- Violence Against Women Act: www.nnedv.org
- Elder Justice Act and Elder Victim Services Act: <http://www.elderjusticecoalition.com/>
- Elder justice legislation map:
<http://www.appleseednetwork.org/bOurProjectsb/LifeLongJustice/tabid/594/Default.aspx>