

Elder Abuse A Closer Look



Elder Abuse Prevention (ON)

Stop Abuse - Restore Respect



PREVENTION OF SENIOR ABUSE

NETWORK

SIMCOE COUNTY



HISTORY

- Founded in 1996 as the Vulnerable Adults

Prevention Committee of Simcoe County

- 1997 District Health Council changed the focus to seniors

- Province launched first Older Abuse Strategy in 2002

- Elder Abuse Ontario began to provide support in 2007

- Renamed PSAN-SC in 2007
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ABOUT US

- 49 members in Network represent over 20 agencies and organizations (health care police, mental health, retirement homes, hearing and vision impairment, police) as well as 7 retired seniors

- 5 member Executive provides direction

- Monthly meetings

- Not incorporated, no funding, no staff, no office





VISION

- All seniors in Simcoe County live with dignity and respect in a safe environment

MISSION

- To promote community participation in a network dedicated to promoting awareness, prevention and response to senior abuse in Simcoe County through advocacy, education and collaboration



WHAT WE DO

- Speakers
- Education and training for seniors (It's Not Right)
- Resources

Attendance at seniors fairs and events

WHAT WE DON'T DO

- Provide direct response/Intervention to elder abuse



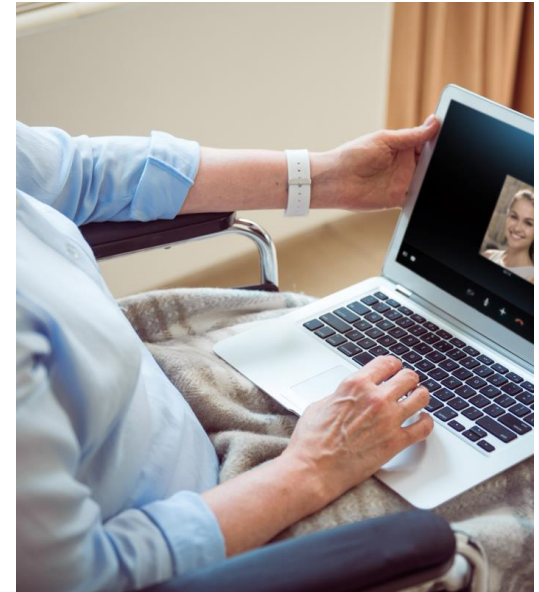
Recent Accomplishments

- New website www.psan-sc.ca funded by Seniors Community Grant (SCG) 2019
- Abuse Prevention Kits developed in 2019 and tested by seniors
- 2020 Road Show funded by SCG to promote education and resources to rural communities in Simcoe County
- 2021 SCG funds approved to create virtual education and training (8 videos on website under Education tab)
- Changed Abuse Prevention Kits to Safety Kits for distribution by First Responders and others
- Over 1000 Safety Kits distributed in past year
- Attended 3 drive-through events in Bradford with South Simcoe Police as well as Georgian Mall with Barrie Police



current activities

- 2 more videos being produced
- Continuing distribution of Safety Kits
- Distributing poster throughout the County
- Planning for WEAAD
- Proposal for New Horizons Grant
- Recruiting new members



Elder Abuse

World Health Organization

“... a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person.”





1 OUT OF 6

Older adults over 60 across the world experience some form of elder abuse in the community



8.2% OF SENIORS

PREVALENCE IN CANADA



NICE

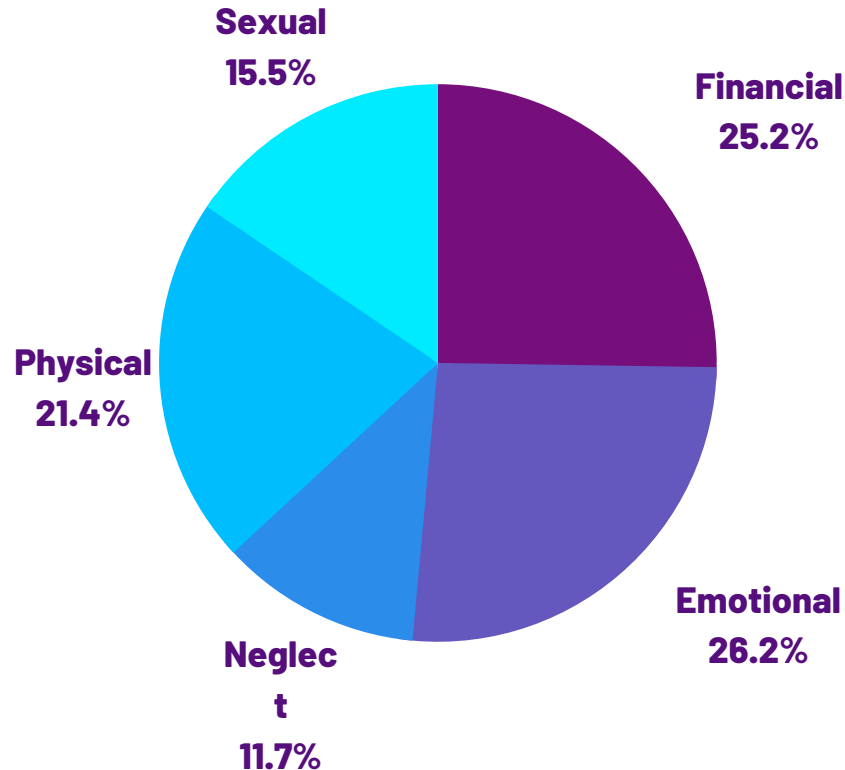
National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly

Initiative nationale pour le soin des personnes âgées

We care together

Ensemble pour le bien-être des aînés

NATIONAL PREVALENCE



Risk Factors



**VULNERABLE
GROUPS**

Being a Women

LGBTQ2S+

**Previous abuse as a
child, youth or
adult**

**Dementia/Cognitive
Impairment**

**Women with
disabilities**

**Lower income or
poverty**

Depression

**Dependent
Socially Isolated**

**Living with
someone with
Addictions**

**Deteriorating
health situations
where one partner
cares for the other**

RECOGNIZING THE ABUSER



FAMILY:

spouse, partner, sibling, son, daughter, grandchild.

FRIEND/NEIGHBOUR:

Informal caregiver /neighbour who helps out once in awhile with care or errands.

CAREGIVER:

Paid agency providing formal support and services

The abuser may be the person who comes across as a very supportive family member.



TYPES OF ELDER ABUSE

- Financial
- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Neglect





EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Any action, verbal or non-verbal, that lessens a person's sense of identity, dignity and self-worth.

SOCIAL ISOLATION

- Power imbalance : Loss of control in decision making and choices
- No Access or denied to technology (computer/ ipad/ phone) to connect with family, friends, agencies
- Fear, discomfort or nervousness around family members, friends, caregiver or other persons.
- Name calling, ridiculing, insulting, bullying



FINANCIAL ABUSE

Any improper conduct, done with or without the informed consent of the older adult that results in a monetary or personal gain to the abuser and/or monetary or personal loss for the older adult.

HARDSHIP

- Covid Fraud and Scams
- Families/adult children moving in with parents/grandparents and not financially contributing
- Lack or no access to banking information
- Misuse of Power of Attorney
- Theft, forgery





NEGLECT

The failure to provide care and assistance required for health, safety or well-being, and includes inaction or a pattern of inaction that jeopardizes the health or safety of an older adult.

FAILURE TO THRIVE

- Lack of access to groceries and medications
- Physicians apt cancelled or phone consultations
- Denied access to services
- Failure to provide medical attention/treatments
- Inability to 'physically' check or observe changes in health, mental well-being of older adult





PHYSICAL ABUSE

Any act of violence or rough-handling that may or may not result in physical injury, but causes physical discomfort or pain.

PHYSICAL INJURY

- Hitting or punching, rough-handling
- Restraint or confinement
- Unexplained bruising on the face, arms/legs
- Broken glasses
- **Over-medicating or withholding necessary medications**





1-866-299-1011



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over 200 languages



awhl.org/seniors

www.psan-sc.ca

Thank
you

