



# ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE AWARENESS



There are an estimated 202,549 cases of reported elder and dependent adult abuse PER YEAR in California. Elder abuse is significantly underreported. For every case known to programs and agencies, 24 are unknown. For financial abuse, only one in 44 cases is known.

Help the California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs and partners around the state to raise awareness about elder and dependent adult abuse. Learn about the different types of abuse, how to recognize them and how to report abuse to the appropriate local agencies.

## 1 Self-Neglect

Refusal or failure to provide himself/herself with adequate food, water, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene, medication (when indicated), and safety precaution.

## 2 Physical Abuse

The use of physical force that may result in bodily injury, physical pain, or impairment; or any physical injury to an adult caused by other than accidental means.

## 3 Neglect by Others

Failure to provide the basic care, or services necessary to maintain the health and safety of an adult: this failure can be active or passive.

## 4 Sexual Abuse

Sexual contact with a non-consenting adult or with an adult considered incapable of consenting to a sexual act.

## 5 Financial Abuse

The illegal or unethical exploitation and/or use of an elder's funds, property, or other assets.

## 6 Mental Abuse

Verbal or emotional abuse includes threatening significant physical harm or threatening or causing significant emotional harm to an adult through the use of: Derogatory or inappropriate names, insults, verbal assaults, profanity, or ridicule; or harassment, coercion, threats, intimidation, humiliation, mental cruelty, or inappropriate sexual comments.

## 7 Abandonment

The desertion or willful forsaking by anyone having responsibility for care.

## 8 Isolation

Preventing the individual from receiving mail, telephone calls, or visitors.

In an emergency, call 911. To report cases of abuse, whether it is on your own behalf or that of someone you know, call 24-hours a day:

- CA Adult Protective Services: 1-833-401-0832
- CA Long-Term Care Ombudsman CRISIS line: 1-800-231-4024



## **ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE AWARENESS**

### **How To Recognize Abuse**



**Lack of basic  
amenities**



**Cluttered,  
filthy living  
environment**



**Unexplained or  
uncharacteristic  
changes in  
behavior**



**Unexplained  
sexually  
transmitted  
diseases**



**Unpaid bills, new  
credit cards  
and/or increased  
cash withdrawals**



**Harassment,  
coercion,  
intimidation,  
humiliation**



**Caregiver  
isolates elder**

**In an emergency, call 911. To report cases of abuse, whether it is on your own behalf or that of someone you know, call 24-hours a day:**

- CA Adult Protective Services: 1-833-401-0832
- CA Long-Term Care Ombudsman CRISIS line: 1-800-231-4024