

ADVOCATES *for* Senior Issues

Virtual Meeting!

September 17, 2021

In order to ensure the health and safety of Advocates for Senior Issues Members, Sponsors, and Presenters, AFSI will be holding its membership meeting in September virtually. We are hopeful to resume in person meetings soon and plan to reevaluate on a month by month basis. Please plan to join virtually on your smartphone, tablet, computer, laptop or by calling in on the number provided below.

NEW Meeting Link!

Join Online:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87604374667>

Call in Option: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 876 0437 4667

Questions or Concerns?

Please contact Sheri Harris via email at SheriH@aaawm.org or call 616-222-7015



The Source for Seniors

ADVOCATES for Senior Issues



Virtual Membership Meeting

Friday, September 17, 2021

10:00 am

Join Online: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87604374667>

Call in Option: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 876 0437 4667



AGENDA

Call to Order and Announcements:

Lody Zwarenstejn, President

Program Presentation



Protecting Seniors from Exploitation

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT



Chris Becker—Kent County Prosecutor

Robert Levine, MD

Mistreatment of seniors is common and takes many forms. The presentation will cover the importance of detecting, reporting and enforcing incidents of elder abuse.



Legislative Presentation

Representative Rachel Hood



Skill and Compassion When You Need It Most.

Rachel Hood is a politician from Michigan. Hood is a Democratic member of Michigan House of Representatives from District 76.



Next Meeting: October 15, 2021

Advocates for Senior Issues is a non-partisan organization, affiliated with the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan

www.aaawm.org/afsi



ELDER ABUSE

SEE IT

DOCUMENT & REPORT IT

TASK FORCE

More than 73,000 older adults in Michigan are victims of elder abuse. They experience abuse, neglect and exploitation.

The symptoms and treatment of elder abuse are complex and demand a concerted effort to tackle this often unrecognized and unreported social problem.

That's why we brought together dozens of different organizations to work collaboratively to tackle the challenge.

ABUSE

Harm or threatened harm to an adult's health or welfare caused by another person.

NEGLECT

The inability or failure to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing, medical care, etc.

EXPLOITATION

The misuse of an adult's funds, property or personal dignity (e.g., humiliation, objectification, degradation, dehumanization) by another person.

Take photographs and written notes on: what you observed, when you observed it, who was present, and any further information that may be of assistance.

Immediately report incidents in licensed settings to the administrator, the director of nursing or charge nurse (in a nursing home), or director of resident care (in a home for the aged or adult foster care) of the facility.

Immediately report applicable situations to Adult Protective Services; the State Police and/or the local police; Attorney General Health Care Fraud Division; Long Term Care Ombudsman; and the Department of Insurance and Financial Services.

PHYSICAL SIGNS

of Elder Abuse/Neglect/Exploitation



Dehydration or unusual weight loss



Missing medication or medical assistive devices



Unexplained injuries or sores



Unsanitary living conditions or poor hygiene



Unattended medical needs or missed appointments

EMOTIONAL/BEHAVIORAL SIGNS

of Elder Abuse/Neglect/Exploitation



Unusual changes in behavior or sleep patterns



Withdrawal from normal activities



Isolation from friends or family



Increased anxiety or fear



Hesitation to speak in presence of "caregiver"

FINANCIAL SIGNS

of Elder Abuse/Neglect/Exploitation



Unpaid bills (elder adult receives foreclosure warnings, electricity is shut off)



Unusual changes in spending patterns (increases in ATM withdrawals, checks made out to cash or written out of order)



Missing household items (cherished heirlooms, expensive tools, or other valuable items)



Unexpected changes in wills or property deeds (property deeded/will changed to benefit "new friend")



Purchase of large items the elder adult does not use (vehicles when the adult does not drive, timeshare purchases when adult is homebound)

AGENCY	CONTACT	INFORMATION
Adult Protective Services	855-444-3911 mi.gov/mdhhs	24-hour crisis intervention for vulnerable adults.
Attorney General Consumer Protection	877-765-8388 mi.gov/agcomplaints	Report consumer complaints (e.g., scams, identity theft).
Attorney General Financial Crimes	517-335-7560 mi.gov/elderabuse	Report if someone is taking money or assets from a vulnerable adult not in a licensed residential care facility.
Attorney General Health Care Fraud	800-24-ABUSE (800-242-2873) mi.gov/elderabuse	Report financial or physical abuse or neglect of residents in licensed residential care facilities.
Attorney General Public Administration	517-335-4004 mi.gov/elderabuse	Concerns about a Public Administrator's handling of estate assets of individuals who die without a will or known heirs.
Counsel and Advocacy Law Line (CALL)	888-783-8190	Attorney-staffed telephone advice, brief service, and referrals for seniors (60+) and low income people.
Department of Insurance and Financial Services	877-999-6442 mi.gov/difs	Investigate consumer complaints against insurance, banking, credit union, mortgage and other financial products.
LARA Bureau of Community and Health Systems	Nursing homes: 800-882-6006 Adult foster care/ homes for the aged: 866-856-0126	Report abuse or neglect concerns in licensed facilities.
LARA Bureau of Professional Licensing	517-241-0199 mi.gov/lara	Report complaints and allegations against licensed care professionals (doctors, dentists, nurses, etc.)
Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman	866-485-9393 mltcop@meji.org	Concerns about your rights, care, or services in a nursing home, home for aged or adult foster care.

No Excuse for Elder Abuse slogan used with permission from NLSM- Elder Law and Advocacy Center.

This project was supported by Victims of Crime Act Award Number 2018-V2-GX-0067 awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice to the Division of Victim Services, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT

EXPLOITATION

Notify the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Adult Protective Services (mi.gov/protectiveservices) at 855-444-3911, if you suspect abuse, neglect or exploitation occurred in:

- A private residence;
- An unlicensed setting (i.e., assisted living facility);
- An adult foster care home;
- A home for the aged; or
- A nursing home where the suspected perpetrator is not an employee of the facility or the resident is on leave from the nursing home.

REPORT ELDER ABUSE IN A NURSING HOME

To report abuse in a nursing home, contact the Attorney General's Health Care Fraud Division on its statewide hotline, 800-24-ABUSE (800-242-2873), by email (hcf@michigan.gov) or through the online complaint form (mi.gov/agcomplaints).

Michigan Attorney General
Health Care Fraud Division
P.O. Box 30218
Lansing, MI 48909



NO EXCUSE FOR ELDER ABUSE.



 **ELDER ABUSE TASK FORCE**

800-24-ABUSE (22873)
mi.gov/elderabuse

REPORT ABUSE:
855-444-3911