
Do you know a victim?

Mr. Smith is 82 and blind. He lives with his son who doesn't have a job. Every month Mr. Smith runs out of money for food and medication; his bills don't always get paid...

Mr. Green is 72 and lives alone. A widower of 15 years, his best friend died 6 months ago. Lately, his clothing is dirty and you don't see him going to church or the store...

Yes, it does happen

Mr. Johnson is 33 and disabled. He lives with his brother who provides his care. The brother is unemployed and has been cashing Mr. Johnson's disability check for his personal use.

Mrs. Jones, age 85, lives with her son and family. When she complains about the children bothering her, the son yells at her and sometimes strikes her physically.

Mrs. Brown is age 70 and has Alzheimer's Disease. She is incontinent and needs constant supervision. Her daughter, who cannot cope with the situation, ties her mother in a chair for several hours at a time.

Warning signs may include:

Bruises, Cuts, Abrasions – Bizarre Behavior – Untreated Bed Sores – Lack of Necessities such as Food, Utilities or Medication – Medical Neglect – Soiled Clothing – Unsafe Living Conditions – Difficulty with Self-Care – Depression – Misuse of Funds/Property

Missouri's law allows the identity of the reporter to remain confidential. Anonymous reports are also accepted.



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Division of Senior and Disability Services

P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570
573/751-6271

TDD: 1-800-735-2966
Voice: 1-800-735-2466



ELDER ABUSE

Call the Elder Abuse Hotline
Toll Free - 24 Hours a Day

1-800-392-0210

Elder Abuse may include:

Physical Abuse:

Hitting, shoving, shaking or slapping

Financial Exploitation:

The use of deception, intimidation, or force to obtain control of assets or income.

Emotional Abuse:

Yelling, humiliating, or threatening an elder

Sexual Abuse:

Nonconsensual sexual molestation and/or contact

Self-Neglect:

Failing to provide for one's basic needs of daily living: personal care, shelter, food, medical care or safety

Neglect:

Denial of basic needs for food, shelter, personal care, medical attention or safe oversight by another.

STOP ELDER ABUSE

Who might be a victim?

Persons who are:

- Frail or suffer a chronic physical or mental impairment
- Socially isolated
- Dependent on others for basic needs
- Powerless in an abusive situation
- Fearful of retaliation or ashamed to take action



No group is immune to elder abuse. The problem affects all social classes and all racial, ethnic, and religious groups. It is a problem in both urban and rural areas. Abuse can occur in the home, nursing facility, residential care facility or hospital.

What can be done for victims?

When a report is received, trained staff from the Division of Senior and Disability Services make personal contact with the victim, listen to their concerns and help find a solution.

The Division of Senior and Disability Services may provide assistance with:

- Linking individuals to community resources
- Arranging services such as homemaker and personal care, respite, day care, advanced personal care and/or nursing services
- Locating appropriate legal interventions
- Accessing available counseling
- Arranging emergency support
- Coordinating needed medical care.

Any person who has a reason to believe an adult is a victim of elder abuse shall report this information to the Division's Elder Abuse Hotline.

**Call this number
toll free 24 hours a day
1-800-392-0210**