## CRITERIA:

- Older adult 55+
- Resident of Chautauqua or Cattaraugus County
- Suspected of being a victim of elder abuse

1. Provide the older adult with the Elder Advocacy Program (EAP) informational materials.
2. Email Amanda Chase, achase@elderjusticeny.org, to indicate that a referral has been made. Identifying information can be provided if appropriate.

## TYPES OF ELDER ABUSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Abuse</th>
<th>The non-accidental use of force that results in bodily injury, pain or impairment.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Exploitation</td>
<td>The unauthorized use of a person's funds or property by another person.</td>
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<td>Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>Contact with a person without their consent; includes but is not limited to forcing sexual contact or forcing sex with a third party.</td>
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<td>Emotional Abuse</td>
<td>The willful infliction of mental or emotional anguish by threat, humiliation, intimidation or other abusive conduct.</td>
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<td>Neglect, including Self-Neglect</td>
<td>The failure to fulfill caretaking obligations.</td>
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## WARNING SIGNS

- Inadequately explained injuries; Failure to take medication as prescribed or report of drug overdose; Indications of being restrained; Refusal by caregiver to allow older adult to be interviewed alone.
- Sudden changes in financial condition; Third party, including POA, has control of older adult's money but fails to meet the elder's needs; Suspicious changes in wills, power of attorney, titles, and/or policies; Items or cash missing from household; Unexplained unpaid bills of lack of medical care; Unnecessary services, goods, subscriptions.
- Unexplained STDs; Bruising around the breasts, inner thighs, upper arms and/or genital area; Difficulty walking or sitting; Hypervigilance; Shying away from being touched; Victim appears to be embarrassed or shameful.
- Unexplained changes in alertness and/or behavior, including withdrawal from normal behaviors; Caregiver exhibits controlling, threatening behaviors; Caregiver is verbally aggressive; Caregiver isolates the older adult.
- Lack of heat, water, electric, food, medical attention; Extreme filth and clutter; Strong odors, poor hygiene, soiled clothing; Unsafe living space; Damaged assistive devices.

### Civil legal representation (present or subsequent action)

### Law enforcement assistance (police reports, follow up, EMDT case review)

### Adult Protective Services (investigation, case management)

### Court advocacy and support

### Courtroom accessibility assistance

### Senior Services (variety of non-legal, social services)

Referrals should be made to the Elder Advocacy Program in any instance where elder abuse in any form is present or suspected, whether the abuse occurred in the past or is ongoing. Referred individuals will be assessed for the following needs, and direct and indirect services will be provided, as needed:

Questions? Call 716-853-3087 ext. 261