

Get Help

EMERGENCY - CALL 911

Report Suspected Abuse

Ontario Provincial Police
1-888-310-1122

Peterborough Police Service
705-876-1122

Senior Crime Stoppers
1-800-222-8477 (TIPS)

Reporting Abuse in Long-Term Care or Retirement Homes

Ministry of Health
Long-Term Care ACTION Line
1-866-434-0144

Retirement Homes Regulatory
Authority
1-855-275-7472

Legal Information

Advocacy Centre for the Elderly
1-855-598-2656

Office of the Public Guardian and
Trustee
1-800-366-0335

Peterborough Community Legal
Centre
705-749-9355

Who We Are

The Peterborough Elder Abuse Prevention Network is a group of community agencies, service providers and volunteers who promote the prevention of elder abuse in Peterborough City and County through networking, information sharing, raising public awareness and advocacy.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION TEAM

A team of representatives from home care, hospital, police, and community support services provide confidential consultation with agencies on complex elder abuse cases and provide respectful suggestions that can improve the situation for older adults and support their right to live in a safe environment.

For Information and Support Contact:

Seniors Safety Line
1-866-299-1011

Elder Abuse Ontario
705-876-1122 ext. 327

Supported by:



*Promoting Dignity
and Respect for
ALL Seniors*

www.peapn.org

Elder Abuse

Elder Abuse is defined as “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.” (WHO, 2012)



Elder abuse often occurs when there is an imbalance of control. The abuser either limits or takes control over, the rights and freedoms of the senior. The abuse is used to intimidate, humiliate, coerce, frighten or simply to make the senior feel powerless.

**Approximately 10%
of seniors are at risk or
experience elder abuse.**

Types of Abuse

FINANCIAL

Theft or exploitation of a person's money, property, or assets.

- Fraud
- Forgery
- Misuse of Power of Attorney

EMOTIONAL

Any action or comment, causing emotional distress, fear, or diminished self-esteem.

- Yelling
- Threatening
- Taking Away Decision Making
- Treating an Older Adult Like a Child

NEGLECT

Inability to provide basic or personal care needs.

- Food, Water
- Medications/Physical Aids
- Shelter, Clothing
- Social Isolation
- Abandonment

PHYSICAL

Any act of violence causing injury or physical discomfort.

- Slapping, Pinching
- Rough Handling
- Forcible Restraint
- Sexual Assault

Warning Signs

Older adults experiencing abuse or neglect may:

- ▶ Have unusual withdrawals from their bank or other financial institution
- ▶ Show signs of depression or anxiety
- ▶ Seem fearful around certain people
- ▶ Lack food, clothing, or other necessities
- ▶ Become socially withdrawn
- ▶ Show changes in hygiene or nutrition
- ▶ Have unexplained injuries
- ▶ Tell you they are being harmed

RISK FACTORS

That may increase the likelihood that an older adult could become a victim of elder abuse.

- Dementia-Related Illnesses
- Mental Health
- Shared Living Arrangements
- Social Isolation/Lack of Social Support
- Depression, Loneliness
- Physical Disabilities

Risk can be elevated for people belonging to already marginalized communities like the LGBTQ+ community, who may be subjected to additional discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.