Abuse in later life: a guide for persons age 50 and older and concerned others

Is a loved one or caregiver hurting you or an older adult that you know?

Resources

ABUSE/NEGLECT/EXPLOITATION
Adult Protective Services
(303) 441-1000

DOMESTIC/FAMILY VIOLENCE
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
(303) 772-4422
Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN)
(303) 444-2424
Restraining Order Information Line
(303) 441-3775

SEXUAL ASSAULT
Moving to End Sexual Assault (MESA)
(303) 443-7300

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION
Community Protection Division, DA’s Office
(303) 441-3700

HELP FOR NURSING HOME & ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS
Long-term Care Ombudsman
(303) 441-1173

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE
CONNECT!
(303) 441-1617 or
www.bouldercountyhelp.org

Police
Call 911 in the event of an emergency
Non-emergency police numbers:
Boulder — (303) 441-3333
Longmont — (303) 651-8501
Lafayette — (303) 665-5571
Louisville — (303) 441-4444
Erie — (303) 441-4444
Nederland — (303) 258-3250
Sheriff’s Office — (303) 441-4444

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**You are not alone.**

It is estimated that between 4-6% of all older adults experience abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Abuse in later life is a serious problem that can have devastating physical, emotional, and financial consequences. It can be difficult to talk about what is happening. You may feel that another’s personal matters are private to that individual. But no one ever deserves to be abused.

All older adults have rights. Please get help if you think you, or another older adult is being abused.

**Signs of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.**

Abuse can happen to women and men of any age.

Does a spouse/partner, family member, or caregiver (paid or unpaid):

- Shame, humiliate, embarrass, or call you bad names?
- Threaten to put you in a nursing home?
- Keep you from seeing family, friends, or others?
- Control your activities and whereabouts?
- Take control of money or legal documents?
- Insist on making decisions for you?
- Threaten to hurt you, him/herself, or pets?
- Take, destroy, damage, sell, or give away things that are important or meaningful?
- Keep details about finances and property from you?
- Take money needed to pay bills?
- Insist that you sign documents that are confusing or concerning?
- Hit, slap, shove, or otherwise physically hurt you?
- Neglect or ignore your health, care, or emotional needs?
- Force unwanted touching, sexual acts, or the viewing of pornographic materials?

If you said yes to any of these, or if you’ve witnessed an older adult being treated in any of these ways, help is available.