

## For More Information Or To Become a Member



*"I hold before you my hand with each finger standing erect and alone, and as long as they are held thus, not one of the tasks that the hand may perform can be accomplished. I cannot lift. I cannot grasp. I cannot hold. I cannot even make an intelligible sign until my fingers organize and work together. In this we should also learn a lesson"*  
(George Washington Carver, 1864-1943)



Alzheimer Society of Niagara 905-687-3914  
Centre de santé Communautaire  
905-734-1141  
Seniors' Community Programs, Niagara  
Region 905-984-6900  
Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder  
Abuse...www.onpea.org

## Helping Places:

If you or someone you know is in  
danger, call 911

- Niagara Regional Police, Senior Support  
905-688-4111
- Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region  
905-687-3914
- Centre de santé Communautaire Hamilton/  
Niagara  
905-734-1141
- Community Care Access Centre  
905-684-9441
- CRIMESTOPPERS  
1-800-222-8477
- Niagara Gatekeeper Program  
905-684-0968
- Seniors' Community Programs, Niagara Region  
905-984-6900

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Trillium  
de l'Ontario



# Elder

# Abuse



**Talk About It.**

**Silence Never Helps.**

# Types of Elder Abuse

## *Physical Abuse*

Any act of violence or rough handling that may or may not result in physical injury but causes physical discomfort or pain.

## *Financial Abuse*

Any improper conduct, done with or without the informed consent of the older adult, that results in a monetary or personal gain to the abuser and/or monetary or personal loss for the older adult.

## *Neglect*

Not meeting the basic needs of an older person.

Active Neglect: deliberate withholding of care or the basic necessities of life.

Passive Neglect: failure to provide proper care due to lack of knowledge, experience or ability.

## *Sexual Abuse*

Any sexual behavior directed toward an older adult without that person's full knowledge and consent.

## *Violation of Rights*

Denial of a person's rights as set out in the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and Provincial Legislation

## *Emotional/Psychological Abuse*

Any action, verbal or non-verbal, that lessens a person's sense of identity, dignity and self-worth.

ONPEA, 2007

# What is Elder Abuse

Elder Abuse is any action, or deliberate inaction, by a person in position of trust which causes harm to an older person. The abuser can be a spouse, child, family member, friend or paid caregiver.

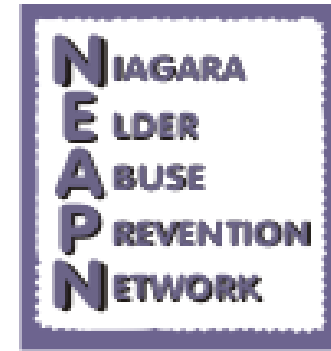
World Health Organization, 2002



*The first step is to talk about it.*

## Possible Signs of Abuse

- ◆ Unexplained Injuries
- ◆ Unusual legal activity related to will or other documents
- ◆ Unnecessary purchases to the home or property and unexplained withdrawals from bank accounts, personal bank statements and credit cards are missing
- ◆ Lack of food, clothing or other necessities, poor hygiene
- ◆ Unexplained weight loss
- ◆ Depression, anxiety, fear



## Our Mission Statement

To work collaboratively with agencies and seniors to prevent elder abuse and create a safe community where older adults are valued and respected within the Niagara Region

## Guiding Principles

- ◆ To promote awareness and provide education and information exchange on elder abuse and its prevention.
- ◆ To advocate for changes in the service delivery system based on identified gaps and relevant research.
- ◆ To develop strategies to improve the identification, prevention and response to elder abuse.