



**Staying Connected:
Elder Abuse Prevention and
Awareness News**

May 2021

Volume 1, No. 11

**World Elder Abuse
Awareness Day 2021**

June 15th, 2021

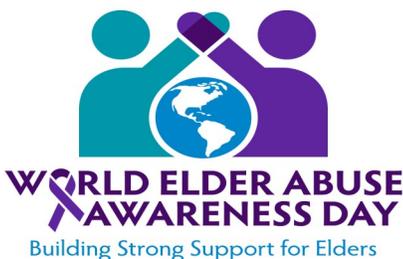
**What can you do to raise
awareness?**

Take Action
(visit <https://eldermistreatment.usc.edu/weaad-home/>)

Wear Purple
(take a picture, share on social
media and cliff.bryant@ky.gov)

**Request Promotional
Materials to share**
(email cliff.bryant@ky.gov for
bookmarks, yard signs, etc.)

**Join a Local Coordinating
Council on Elder Abuse**
([click here for map](#))



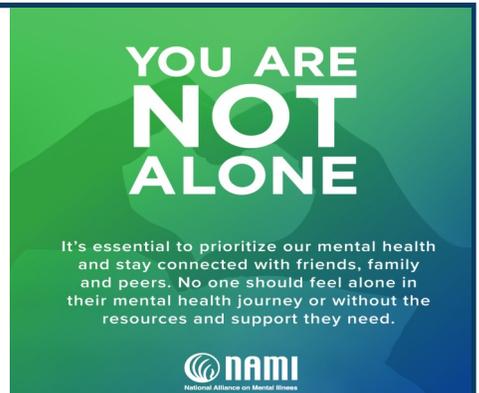
The month of may has always held a special place in the hearts of Kentuckians due to the Kentucky Derby. The Kentucky Derby is considered by many to be the “most exciting two minutes in sports.” Whether you go to see the twin spires, wear a beautiful hat or drink a mint julep, the traditions of the derby are always highly visible on the first Saturday in May.

As we celebrate those traditions, let us also take some time to remember the traditions of our families. Each family has its own unique traditions from a large Sunday meal with extended family, a movie on a Friday night to placing flowers on gravestones on each holiday. As we celebrate Older American’s Month, let us take some time to learn these traditions from our elders, so we can continue them with our families for many years to come.

Although we are in a digital age, consider taking those family traditions and making a book that can be shared with all family members. Remember to leave space in the book to add new traditions as others join our families.

Let us also take some time this month to honor all of the soldiers that have lost their lives in service of this great country. These great soldiers have allowed the United States to continue thriving for the past 244 years.

Since 1949 the month of May has been designated for Mental Health Awareness. The Mental Health America organization utilizes the month of May to draw awareness to individuals living with mental health diagnoses. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) 4.7% of adults in Kentucky are living with serious mental health conditions such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major depression. According to National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) 1 in 5 adults in America experience a mental illness. The national data shows that nearly 1 in 25 adults are currently living with a serious mental illness. 2.4 million Americans are living with schizophrenia. 6.1 million Americans are living with bipolar disorder. 16 million Americans are living with major depression. For mental health resources, check out The Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities at <https://dbhdid.ky.gov> or NAMI at namiky.org.



HELLO!



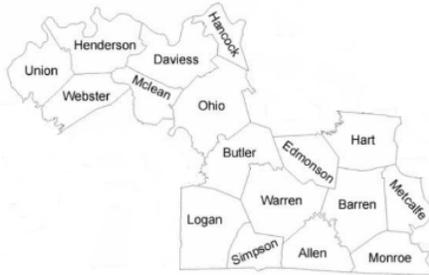
MEET THE TEAM

Two Rivers Service Region has two designated Adult Protective Services teams and the support of a Service Region Clinical Associate, Mary Baize. This region serves the following counties: Allen, Barren, Butler, Daviess, Edmonson, Hancock, Hart, Henderson, Logan, McLean, Metcalfe, Monroe, Ohio, Simpson, Union, Warren and Webster.

Debra Jacobs serves as one of the Family Services Office

Supervisors. On her team are the following individuals: Natasha Jones (SSWII), Lisa Loftus (SSCII), Edward Lomax (SSWI), Deborah Middleton (SSCI) and Jackie Moorman (SSCI).

Randy Hale serves as the other Family Services Office Supervisor. On this team are the following individuals: Crystal Boston (SSCI), Amanda Everett (SSCII), Kelly Kitchens (SSCI), Brandon Moncrief (SSWI), Allison Morrison (SSCI) and, Brance Thompson (SSCII).



Exploitation vs. Scams: What do I need to know?

In order to understand the difference between a scam and exploitation in the eyes of an APS worker, we must first establish what definitions are being used.

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary scam is defined as a fraudulent or deceptive act or operation.

According to KRS 209.020, exploitation is defined as obtaining or using another person's resources, including by not limited to funds, assets, or property, by deception, intimidation, or similar means, with the intent to deprive the person of those resources.

Although the definitions are very similar and require that someone is perpetrating some kind of fraud on another individual, there is one key difference. In order for APS to conduct an investigation, the individual having the fraud perpetrated on them, must meet the definition of adult under KRS 209.

All exploitation cases involve a victim that meets the definition of adult per KRS 209, but not all scams involve a victim that meets that definition.

There is a perception that because someone is scammed, the victim must have some deficit that would allow someone to take advantage of their situation. Scammers or confidence people are very skilled and use emotions and fast talking to get what they want. These tactics can work on a variety of people. Once a person is scammed, they are typically placed on a list that can be sold to other scammers.

When the victim of the scam meets the definition of adult per KRS 209, the information will be reviewed to determine if it meets for acceptance criteria.

If the scammer is someone out of state or even out of the country, it is more appropriate to notify the Office of Attorney General for additional assistance. It should be noted that APS is not going to have any control over getting the money back.

In these cases the focus on offering protective services to help make sure that it does not happen again. The worker will complete some screening for any potential deficits with cognitive capacity and file any necessary court petitions. If there are no cognitive capacity issues, the worker will try to work through plan that will protect the victim from future scams.

If the scammer is someone that continues to have in person contact with the victim, the worker will coordinate with local law enforcement for any perpetrator accountability. A referral to the Office of the Attorney General will be made as well. While law enforcement will be focused on reclaiming any money, the worker will focus on protective services.

"Protecting Kentuckians from Fraud and Scams"

Office of Senior Protection
Brochure

[Click Here](#)

Home is Where the Heart Is Checklist

[Click Here](#)

Minimizing the Risk of Opioid-Related Elder Abuse

[Click Here](#)

Red Flags of Elder Abuse: Opioid Use

[Click Here](#)

Mental Health America Of Kentucky

[Click Here](#)

What do you call a droid that takes the long way around?
R2 Detour

5/21/21 at 11:00—12:00pm, EST
Mental Health Awareness Virtual Event
Zoom Registration—[Click Here](#)

6/1/21 at 3:00-4:30pm, EST
"Elder Abuse Issues and Capacity Determination in Dementia"—[Click Here](#)
(select register online)

6/9/21 at 12:00pm, EST
"Coming Back Strong After COVID-19: Federal Elder Justice Innovations and Resources"—[Click Here](#)

ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH