



(Left to Right): Governor Andy Beshear, Commissioner Victoria Erftige (DAL), Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, Secretary Gerina Whetters, Commissioner Marta Miranda-Straub, Secretary Eric Friedlander



DCBS Office (Left to Right): Tammy Riggs, Cliff Bryant, Stacy Carey, Katy Mullins, Commissioner Marta Miranda-Straub, Mary Carpenter, Shelley Hearn, Kelli Root, Mitzi Geveden



HELLO!



MEET THE TEAM

Over the past year we have introduced you to the Department of Community Based Services staff that help protect our vulnerable adults in Kentucky. You met some dedicated individuals from your first contact with our Central Intake team, to your frontline Adult Protective Services workers and supervisors to the policy writers/consultative branch staff.

So now let's take some time to

get to know all of the individuals on our Local Coordinating Councils on Elder Abuse. These groups are the grassroots, boots on the ground, advocates in your local community.

It is the hope that by sharing compositions of different councils this will give you information to advocate for your own council, or motivate you to join one to fill in any gaps in knowledge they may have.

"One person can make a difference. You don't have to be a big shot. You don't have to have a lot of influence. You just have to have faith in your power to change things."

- Norman Vincent Peale

Elder Abuse - Through the Years!

In 1974, the United States Congress amended the Social Security Act to require that all states establish adult protective services (APS) units for adults aged 18 and older.

Kentucky quickly passed the Adult Protection Act (KRS 209) in 1976 to require reporting known or suspected incidences of adult abuse, neglect or exploitation. This act was amended in 1978 to include a mandatory reporting provision.

By 1981, all states had established APS units. The federal government did not appropriate any specific funding for these programs, so the states were allowed to utilize some of their social service block grant funds.

Over the years, the U.S. Senate, House and the Government Accountability Office have conducted hearings and authorized studies to look in to elder abuse issues. Early on it was believed that "caregiver stress" was the primary cause of elder abuse. The models formulated on this assumption led to many victims being removed from their home and placed in to nursing homes.

In the late 1980s the Older American's Act authorized the creation of the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA). Unlike APS programs, Congress appropriated funding to NCEA for activities that would include information dissemination, research, technical assistance and training.

In 2010 and 2017, Congress passed the Elder Justice Act (EJA) and the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (EAPPA) respectively. Again, these acts were passed without authorization of any funding for the activities and programs that were authorized. Many federal agencies have found ways to fund some of these activities and programs through alternate methods.

An amendment to the Violence Against Women Act authorized and appropriated some funding that could be used specifically for training about abuse of women in later life and persons with disabilities.

Although funding has been limited through the years, agencies have managed to move things around in their approved budgets, to start tackling issues. There has been substantially greater training and involvement of criminal justice system professionals, but this varies widely from community to community because of challenges with limited resources.

Multidisciplinary responses have also started to proliferate across the U.S. These responses are currently considered as best practice. Multidisciplinary responses can include interdisciplinary teams, task forces, coordinating councils, fatality review teams and forensics centers.

Continue to advocate for additional funding to address continued issues.

RESOURCES

Protecting Residents from Financial Exploitation

[Click Here](#)

SSA Inspector General:
New Tactics for Government Imposters

[Click Here](#)

Law Enforcement Elder Justice Resource Guide

[Click Here](#)

Mistreatment of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Elders.

[Click Here](#)

Money Smart for Older Adults Resource Guide

[Click Here](#)

What do you call a duck that gets all A's?
A Wise Quacker

TRAINING

6/29/21 at 3:00—4:00pm, ET
The Role of the Criminal Justice System in Addressing Elder Abuse Perpetrators
[Register Here](#)

6/30/21 at 2:00pm, ET
Elder Financial Fraud—Tips for Caregivers
[Register Here](#)

Online Training (available anytime)
Coming Back Strong After COVID-19: Federal Elder Justice Innovations and Resources
[Access Here](#)

Happy
PRIDE
Month