



Staying Connected: Adult Maltreatment Prevention & Awareness News

July 2022

Volume 3, No. 1

THIS IS ME...

**... Free From Abuse,
Neglect, and Exploitation**

**... Advocating for Nursing
Home Residents**

**... Advocating For
Medicaid Waiver
Recipients**

**... Investigating Abuse,
Neglect and Exploitation
at APS**

**... Investigating Abuse,
Neglect and Exploitation
as Law Enforcement**

**... Prosecuting Abuse,
Neglect and Exploitation
of Adults**

**... Advocating Policy
Changes**

A spark has the potential to ignite a flame. A flame that brings light to the scourge of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. A flame that brings light to all the dedicated individuals working to end abuse, neglect, and exploitation of our fellow Kentuckians. A flame that will bring an end to adult maltreatment.

The World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) events all over the state of Kentucky show that we have sparked a flame that is ready to light the way to a future without adult maltreatment. Using the momentum of WEAAD, the flame will begin bringing the light to the changes that are necessary in our communities moving forward.

Now that a flame has been sparked to light our way, it is time to start building the fire that will support our communities. A fire that has the foundation to last for a long time. A fire that is nurtured. A fire that has the ability to grow safely. A fire that has the ability to provide comfort to those in need.

The foundation of our fire is the advocates, regulatory agencies, investigators, assessors, law enforcement, legal services, survivors, service providers, policy makers, multi-disciplinary teams and many more.

Like any good fire, we need to make sure that we have laid the foundational pieces in the right position. This means that we need to make sure that we have connected each piece in a way that will complement each other while allowing for the space necessary to complete their unique role.

So how do we start connecting the right pieces to each other? First, we will need to understand the roles and responsibilities of each piece. In learning the basics, we start to see the natural connections that can be used for growth.

So to facilitate the learning process of each other's roles and responsibilities we will start a "This Is Me..." project. For specific information about this project please see page three (3).

In addition to learning the roles and responsibilities, this project will also allow us to peer in to the individual's passion and purpose in their roles.

Through the sharing of our passions and purpose we have the potential to reinvigorate the passions in others. We also have the potential to help someone find a passion they didn't know was present inside all along.

If passion is a necessary piece to building the foundation of our fire, the sharing of our passion will help to make our foundation more secure and cohesive.

In educating ourselves about each other, we began to understand the important roles that each of us have, and this will help us to identify the ways in which we intersect. Using these intersections to form a more cohesive foundation.

A cohesive foundation will allow for the fire to take hold and establish itself in its environment. This cohesion will allow for the foundation to be united in a common goal. The goal of ending adult maltreatment in Kentucky.

In an effort to be more mindful of our mission, we have shifted from a title with Elder Abuse to one with Adult Maltreatment. It is our hope that this shift will ensure that we are more inclusive of those being served in our prevention and awareness efforts to end abuse, neglect and exploitation in Kentucky.



Big Sandy Elder Abuse Council

KIPDA



JUNE 15, 2022



WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Building Strong Support for Elders

<https://kysteam.ky.gov>



Bluegrass Elder Abuse Prevention Council
www.BluegrassEAPC.com



Pennyriple Elder Abuse Council



T.R.A.C.E



This is me...

"This is me..." will be a chance to introduce individuals that are advocating for nursing home residents, advocating for Medicaid waiver recipients, investigating allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation at APS and in law enforcement, as well as many other individuals that make a difference in the lives of adults in Kentucky.

Each month we will have a new individual that will provide insights in to their unique role in protecting the health, welfare and safety of adults.

To help guide this article we are asking for you input in to the types of questions that you would like to have answered. Below you will see a link (and QR code) to a quick survey that will help identify the questions that will be provided to the individuals. Please identify the questions that you would love to have answered by each individual each month. Also help us identify individuals that you would like to have write an article. We will also be accepting volunteers that are interested in sharing their passion for protecting and advocating for adults.

This survey will stay live till 7/29/22 at 11:45pm. Thank you.



[Take Survey Here](#)

Defining Words! How do we communicate?

"Use your words." Possibly the most commonly used phrase by social workers and parents.

The words we use when communicating with others can either help or hinder us in achieving our goals.

Like many agencies, both public and private, Adult Protective Services (APS) uses words that can have more than one meaning. So to help clarify the language of APS, we will go over some terminology that are most commonly used and may be causing confusion.

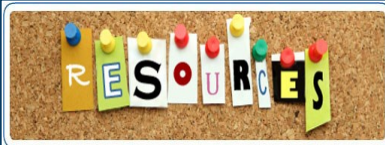
The most important word to APS is "Adult." Although this word is universally believed to be an individual that is over the age of eighteen (18) and typically independent, self-sufficient and responsible, this is not the case for APS in Kentucky.

KRS 209.020 defines an adult a person eighteen (18) or older who, because of mental or physical dysfunctioning, is unable to manage his or her own resources, carry out the activity of daily living, or protect himself or herself from neglect, exploitation, or a hazardous or abusive situation without assistance from others, and who may be in need of protective services.

This definition is the first thing used to determine if someone is going to qualify for an abuse, neglect, or exploitation investigation through APS. If they do not meet this definition then they will not be referred to as an adult.

If you notice, this definition does not reference any age requirements outside of being over eighteen. That means that APS does not have the statutory authority to provide abuse, neglect, or exploitation investigations to the "elderly" if they do not meet the definition of adult.

Next month we will dive in deeper to the adult definition to understand the other pieces that are not related to being over the age of eighteen.



Social Work Roles in Elder Abuse Prevention and Response

[Click Here](#)

Persons Living with Dementia in the Criminal Legal System

[Click Here](#)

The Aging Population: Isolation and the Risks of Fraud and Abuse

[Click Here](#)

APS Public Awareness: Strategies for Success

[Click Here](#)

What do you get when you cross a dinosaur with fireworks?

Dino-mite!



7/27/22 2:00pm—3:00pm
A Fireside Chat on Elder Justice Policy
[Register Here](#)

7/29/22 8:30am—4:30pm
Empowering Mindfulness Conference
Learn about: The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the wellbeing of the elderly, mindfulness and self-care for caregivers, values, boundaries, and mindfulness
[Register Here](#)

On-Demand
Supporting Conversations on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within APS Programs
[Click Here](#)

988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE