
STAYING CONNECTED: ADULT MALTREATMENT PREVENTION & AWARENESS NEWS

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Over the past year we have looked at ways that we can inspire solutions to end adult maltreatment. Specifically, we have looked at how we can inspire these solutions in our work and our community.

We acknowledged that there are barriers that we face each and every day. Leading the cause is that understanding and recognition of adult maltreatment is typically limited to those in the field and those that have first-hand experience.

Although there are many reasons leading to the lack of knowledge, one big hurdle is that unlike the child protective services realm, there is a lack of research and data associated with adult maltreatment.

Even without research, we see that a common theme to raising awareness of adult maltreatment and the available services is the lack of strong communication networks.

To help improve communication, we spent some time trying to get to know our target audience. Starting

at the research level, we worked to build an understanding of how best to engage our audience.

As a part of our research, we learned that it is important to get out and have one-on-one conversations. These conversations allow us to learn about the current perceptions of adult maltreatment and the related services.

Through one-on-one conversations we have learned that we are able to engage our community in ways that we may not have been able to in the past. This first step in community engagement will inevitably lead to venting sessions, complaints, and suggestions on what we can do better.

We learned the importance of not taking these complaints personally. We worked to understand that these conversations are opportunities for growth. We have learned ways to steer the conversation from identifying a problem, to formulating a solution.

As you have taken in all this information, remember, you are not alone. The work to end adult maltreatment requires partnerships. We learned some quick tips to build partnerships in a way that will foster realness, trust, and resiliency.

After learning how to establish partnerships we also looked at ways to create strategic plans that would allow us to move the work forward in a meaningful way. Strategic plans need to honor the vision and core values of your organization or community while defining your desired outcomes.

Through perseverance and a willingness to work together as a community we can end adult maltreatment.

Remember that each and everyday victims find a way to persevere through the abuse, neglect and exploitation so let us continue our commitment to find and inspire solutions to end adult maltreatment in this great commonwealth.



- Findings from an Innovative Prevention Intervention from Self-Neglect in Primary Care-On Demand – [Click Here](#)
- June 26th, 2024 1:00pm - 18th Annual Katz Policy Lecture: Mental Health and Aging – [Register Here](#)
- June 25th, 2024 12:00pm - Current State of Knowledge Regarding Fraud and Abuse Committed by Guardians or Conservators – [Register Here](#)

“HOW CAN I SUPPORT ADULT MALTREATMENT AWARENESS?”

Each and every one of us plays an important role in preventing abuse, neglect, and exploitation of adults, or what is more commonly referred to as vulnerable adults.

In order for us to be effective at preventing maltreatment, we first must know the signs and indicators of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. By visiting www.KYESTEAM.ky.gov you can access flyers on identifying [abuse](#), [neglect](#) and [financial exploitation](#).

If you are interested in learning more about the indicators of maltreatment in a training format that you can do at your own pace, you can access the web-based module on being a mandated reporter. This training can be found under the training tab on the Education/Training page of KYESTEAM.

If you like to have trainings

that are more interactive, you can request a training on the Education/Training page of KYESTEAM. Although there are a few options identified for potential trainings, these can be customized to fit the need of your group. These trainings can be offered virtually and in person.

Once you have established the basics of how to identify abuse, neglect, and exploitation it is important for you to share your knowledge with others. Word of mouth is the most effective way to spread awareness. There are a lot of people that do not even realize that adult protective services are available.

If you have a strong passion for prevention and awareness efforts, consider joining a Local Coordinating Council on Elder Abuse. These councils are grass roots efforts to raise awareness about adult maltreatment in their local communities. Check

on the map ([click here](#)) on KYESTEAM to locate a council near you. If you do not see a council in your community, consider starting one.

If you have resources that you believe would benefit adults in Kentucky, and they are not currently listed on the [resource page](#) of KYESTEAM, please take some time to make a recommendation through the “contact us” feature ([general questions/requests/comments](#)).

While at the “contact us” feature please feel free to share your ideas or suggestions on how adults in Kentucky can better be protected from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

At a minimum, remember that if you suspect that an adult is being abused, neglected or exploited, report it to the hotline or web portal.

**877-KYSAFE-1
(877-597-2331)**

[WebReferral \(ky.gov\)](#)



- Using Elder Abuse Case Studies to Develop LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency - [Click To Access](#)
- 2023 Profile of Older Americans (ACL) - [Click To Access](#)
- What Health Care Students Need to Know About Elder Abuse – [Click To Access](#)
- What Clinical Psychology Students Need to Know About Elder Abuse – [Click to Access](#)



Where do birds stay when they go on vacation?
Someplace cheep!