

Customize your STEAP Initiative toolkit materials! **Add your own logo, contact information, and local elder abuse reporting numbers** (visit eldercare.acl.gov for a list of local reporting numbers).

1. Download the desired toolkit material or the entire toolkit [here](#).
2. Save the file to your computer.
3. Open the file using [Adobe Acrobat](#).
4. To add your logo (example file: [Building Community Supports to Prevent Elder Abuse brochure](#)):

4a. Click the “[Click here to insert logo]” field form

5 things EVERYONE can do to prevent Elder Abuse:

- 1. Listen**
Listen to older people and caregivers to understand their challenges and provide support
- 2. Educate**
Educate one another about the signs of abuse and how to get help
- 3. Report**
Report suspected abuse or neglect as soon as possible
- 4. Build**
Build a community that fosters social connections and supports
- 5. Reach out**
Reach out to professional services for support where available

[Click here to insert logo]

[Area to Input Agency Name]

[Area to Input Contact Information]

This brochure was created in conjunction with:

USAgging USAgging
Leaders in Aging Well at Home usaging.org

NCEA National Center on Elder Abuse
National Center on Elder Abuse
855-500-3537 ncea.acl.gov

[Area to Input Agency Name]

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4b. Click “Browse”

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Select Image dialog box: File: [] Browse... Clear image OK Cancel



Elder Abuse is preventable – and everyone has a role to play.

This material was completed for the National Center on Elder Abuse situated at Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California, in partnership with the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and is supported in part by a grant (No. 904BRC000101-02) from the Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Grantees carrying out projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Therefore, points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official ACL or HHS policy.

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[Click here to insert logo]



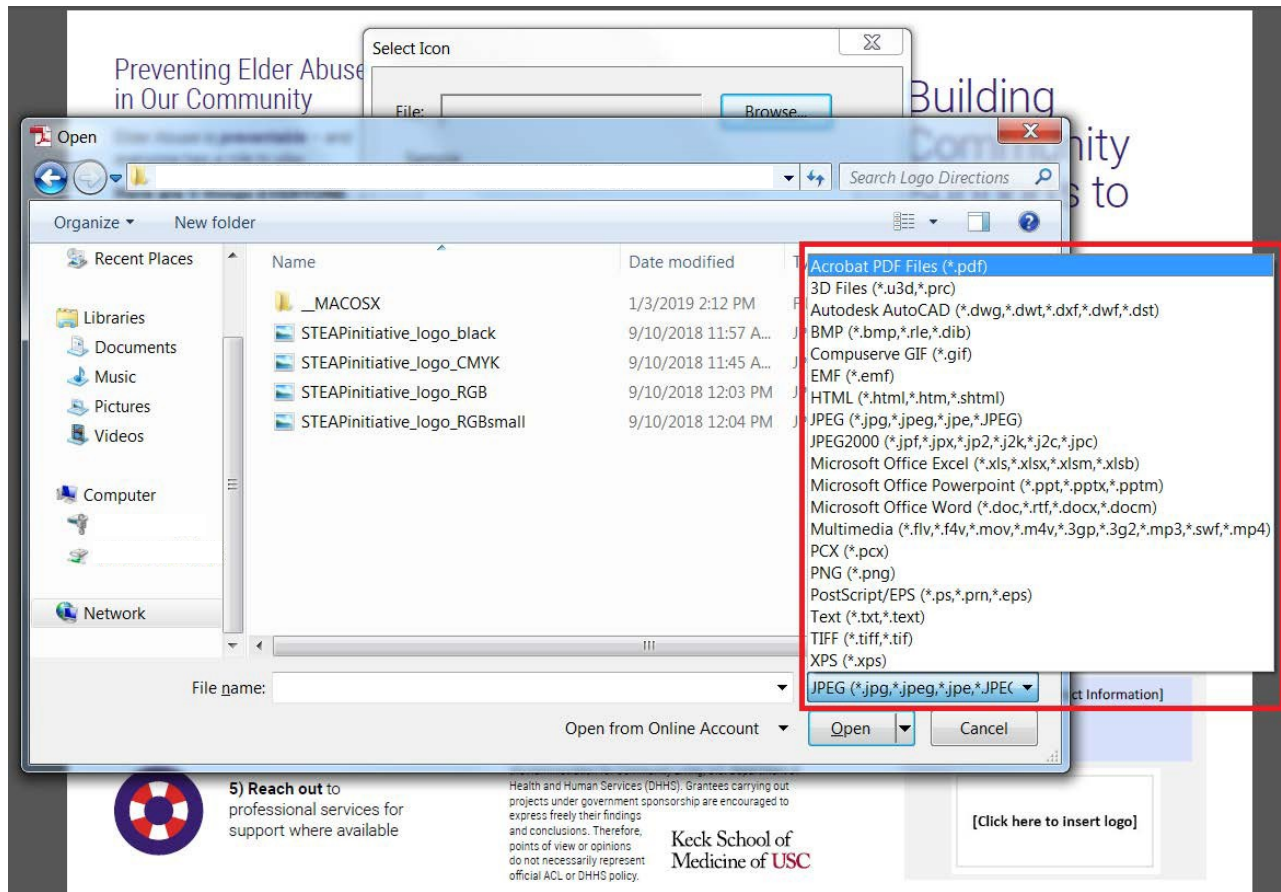
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4c. Search and select your logo's file type (PDF, JPEG, PNG, etc.)



4d. File > Save

5. To add your contact information and local elder abuse reporting numbers:

5a. Click one of the fillable text fields and input text.

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What is Elder Abuse?

Elder Abuse, the mistreatment or harming of an older person, is an injustice that we all need to prevent and address.

Elder Abuse can occur in both community and institutional settings and can take many forms, including:

- Physical
- Emotional/Psychological
- Sexual
- Financial
- Neglect

Multiple forms of abuse can occur at the same.

What Causes Elder Abuse?

Elder Abuse can occur when strong social supports are not in place to keep us connected as we age. While anyone is potentially at risk of abuse, some factors can increase one's risk of experiencing abuse:

- social isolation
- lack of access to support services and community resources
- physical, mental, or emotional needs in carrying out daily activities

Signs of Elder Abuse

Emotional & Behavioral Signs

- Increased fear or anxiety
- Unusual changes in behavior or sleep
- Isolation from friends or family
- Withdrawal from normal activities

Physical Signs

- Dehydration or unusual weight loss
- Missing daily living aids (glasses, walker, or medication)
- Unexplained injuries, bruises, cuts, or sores
- Unsanitary living conditions and poor hygiene
- Unattended medical needs
- Torn, stained, or bloody underclothing
- Sexually transmitted diseases without clear explanation

Financial Signs

- Fraudulent signatures on financial documents
- Unpaid bills
- Unusual or sudden changes in spending patterns, will, or other financial documents

Reporting Abuse

Programs such as Adult Protective Services (APS) and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman are here to help.


Report suspected abuse or neglect in the community setting:

Local APS contact information]

Report suspected abuse or neglect in long-term care facilities:

Local LTCOP contact information]

For serious and immediate emergencies, CALL 911.



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5b. File> Save

To submit an inquiry, please contact the National Center on Elder Abuse. Call 855-500-3537 or email ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov.