WHY COLLABORATE?

Working Together to Address Elder Abuse
You Will Be Better Able To:

- Describe the benefits and value of collaboration in elder abuse cases versus typical siloed responses.
- List various models of collaboration.
- Identify local collaborations to address elder abuse.
MDT Discussion of the Frank’s Case
(role play)

• Need 6 volunteers to read a script about their interactions with Frank
Debrief of MDT Activity

• What information did one system have that other professionals may not have known?
• What accounts for the different information each had?
Considering Frank’s case and your own experience, what are the benefits of an elder abuse team focused on case review?
Modeling Collaboration

Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse & Neglect, University of California, Irvine
When We Work in Our Own Silos

- Well intended professionals assess cases based on the information they have available to them.
- When we work in “silos,” we only have the information we have collected.
Benefits of Sharing Information

Each system has more information to:

- Make better decisions
- More accurately assess the victim’s strengths and needs
- Understand the victim’s desires to craft alternatives that best met the victim’s preferences and needs.
Collaboration Enhances Victim Autonomy and Safety

- Victim autonomy and self-determination are respected
- Interventions which enhance safety can be developed and thoughtfully and ethically implemented
“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

– Helen Keller
From Silo to Team
Ways to Collaborate

• Informal

• Formal
  • Structure and Membership
  • Leadership
  • Mission statement and bylaws
  • Rules or formalized procedures
  • MOUs
“Multidisciplinary teams...are now a hallmark of elder abuse prevention programs.”

– Dr. Rosalie Wolf

A National Look at Elder Abuse Multidisciplinary Teams, retrieved from www.ncea.aoa.gov
Types of Teams to Address Elder Abuse

• What types of teams meet regularly in this community to address elder abuse or other related topics?
Local Collaboration

• Name teams in this area that address elder abuse.
• Describe the focus of their work; how long they have been operating, and their membership.
Elder Abuse Teams

- Case Review
  - Multidisciplinary teams/Interdisciplinary teams
  - Financial Abuse Specialist Teams (FASTs)

- Centralizing Services
  - Elder Abuse Forensic Centers
  - Family Justice Centers

- Improving Responses/Systems change
  - Coordinated Community Response
  - Elder Fatality Review Teams
  - Coalitions

NOTE: Many EA teams have more than 1 focus area
Case Review Elder Abuse Teams

- Multidisciplinary teams/Interdisciplinary teams
- Financial Abuse Specialist teams (FASTs)
Centralizing Services for Older Adults and Professionals

- Elder Abuse Forensic Centers
- Family Justice Centers
Improving Responses/Systems Change

- Coordinated Community Response (CCR)
- Elder Fatality Review Teams
- Coalitions
“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”

– Henry Ford
University of California, Irvine Forensic Center Team

Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse & Neglect, University of California, Irvine
Resources

• Anetzberger, G.J. 2011. “The Evolution of a Multidisciplinary Response to Elder Abuse,” Marquette Elder’s Advisor, 13(1), available at scholarship.law.marquette.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1005&content=elders


Links to Resources on Collaboration

• National Center on Elder Abuse:  
  www.ncea.aoa.gov/Stop_Abuse/Teams

• National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL):  
  www.ncall.us/community/collaboration

• National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse:  
  www.preventelderabuse.org/coalitions
For more information, visit us!

ncea.aoa.gov
Also on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube

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