# ELDER ABUSE. FREPORT IT. END IT.

#### **About NJ MFCU**

The mission of the New Jersey Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (NJ MFCU) is to protect Medicaid beneficiaries and the Medicaid Program from fraud, waste and abuse.

#### **About NJ EPTF**

In 2018, the NJ MFCU launched the Elder Protection Task Force, which investigates allegations of financial exploitation, abuse and or neglect of elderly and incapacitated adults receiving Medicaid benefits in the State of New Jersey.

#### NJ EPTF investigates and prosecutes

- Neglect or Isolation
- Physical Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Financial Exploitation
- Sexual Abuse
- Identify Theft
- Institutional Abuse and Neglect
- Cons and Scams
- Human Trafficking

# **Report It**

www.nj.gov/oag/ medicaidfraud/report.html

Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Financial Exploitation Tip Hotline

1-609-292-1272

# NJ MFCU

MEDICAID FRAUD CONTROL UNIT

#### Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor

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Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor



State of New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

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# They cared for us. Now it's our turn.





### Each year, hundreds of thousands of older people are subject to elder abuse.

Many of them are frail, vulnerable, and rely on others to meet their most basic needs. Abusers can be children, family members, trusted friends, or even professionals hired to provide care.

### Elder abuse can include:

Physical Abuse Psychological Abuse Sexual Abuse

Neglect

#### **Financial Exploitation**

Elder abuse is any "knowing, intentional, or negligent act by a caregiver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult."



Multiple forms of abuse can occur at once.

### How to spot elder abuse

The signs of elder abuse can be subtle. Any of the following can be a cause for concern:

- Physical signs including unexplained bruises, bed sores, or sexually transmitted diseases.
- Poor hygiene or nutrition and unsafe or unclean living conditions.
- Missing medical aids like glasses, dentures, hearing aids, a walker, etc.
- Over- or under-medication.
- Changes in behavior or sleep.
- Increased fear, anxiety, or sadness.
- Isolation or withdrawal from normal activities.
- Unusual changes to financial arrangements: bank accounts, money management services, wills or trusts.
- Unpaid bills or fraudulent signatures on financial documents.





# Who is at risk?

There are several factors that can contribute to elder abuse:

- Social isolation
- Lack of access to support services
- Lack of training or understanding of how to properly care for older people
- Emotional or financial dependence on the older adult

# What should you do when you see or suspect elder abuse? REPORT IT.

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