

To: Community Partner

From: NYS Committee for the Coordination of Police Services to Elderly Persons

Date: May 1, 2023

**Subject:** Support World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2023

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is recognized annually on June 15. Every year, local department of social services (LDSS) and aging agencies promote awareness through locally organized public education events.

This year the New York State Committee for the Coordination of Police Services to Elderly Persons (Committee) invites its state and local constituents across the state to come together on Thursday, June 15, 2023 to raise awareness of the abuse, neglect and exploitation of our most vulnerable adults and promote effective strategies to prevent abuse. The Committee is comprised of members representing the New York State Police, municipal law enforcement agencies, the Division of Criminal Justice Services, Office of Children and Family Services, Office for the Aging, Office of Victim Services, Crime Prevention Coalition, Office of Temporary Disability Assistance, Office of Attorney General and the NYS District Attorney's Association.

We, the Committee, invite local, county and state law enforcement offices, associations, and providers to partner with their <u>LDSS</u> adult protective services unit and area aging agencies, to promote WEAAD, by wearing purple on June 15 and holding a local event as we gather in unity to support our efforts to acknowledge and prevent abuse and exploitation of NYS' vulnerable adults.

With your combined efforts, your local event will highlight all forms of elder abuse: financial, physical, and emotional, with a goal to promote education and awareness, showcase real life stories, and identify meaningful strategies to prevent elder abuse and provide methods older adults can utilize to protect themselves.

We have included a toolkit <a href="https://aging.ny.gov/world-elder-abuse-awareness-day-toolkit">https://aging.ny.gov/world-elder-abuse-awareness-day-toolkit</a> to assist you with planning your local event. We encourage you to reach out to your local area aging agencies and <a href="mailto:Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team">Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team</a> (E-MDT); as key partners all of you play an important role in assisting vulnerable adults and providing supports. You are also encouraged to send details about your event to Lifespan of Greater Rochester at <a href="mailto:dshukoff@lifespan-roch.org">dshukoff@lifespan-roch.org</a> for posting on their website or send your event pictures to the Office of Children and Family Services at <a href="mailto:info@ocfs.ny.gov">info@ocfs.ny.gov</a>. We hope you will join with all of our partners statewide on June 15, 2023, there is resiliency in numbers, strength in solidarity, and power in our voices.

Thank you.