

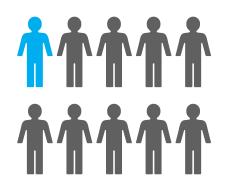
# ELDER ABUSE Fast Facts 2013

Here's what the research says...

## 1 in 10 AMERICANS AGE 60+ EXPERIENCED ABUSE OVER ONE YEAR. AND MANY EXPERIENCED IT IN MULTIPLE FORMS.

Acierno R, Hernandez MA, Amstadter AB, Resnick HS, Steve K, Muzzy W, et al. (2010). Prevalence and correlates of emotional, physical, sexual, and financial abuse and potential neglect in the United States: The national elder mistreatment study. American Journal of Public Health, 100(2), 292–297.

Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc., Weill Cornell Medical Center of Cornell University. & New York City Department for the Aging. (2011) Under the Radar: New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study. New York: Author



#### ELDER ABUSE IS underreported.

The New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study found that for every elder abuse case known to programs and agencies, **23.5** were unknown. In the same study, they examined different types of abuse and found for each case of financial exploitation that reached authorities, **44** cases went unreported. The National Elder Abuse Incidence Study estimated that only 1 in 14 cases of elder abuse ever comes to the attention of authorities.



Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc., Weill Cornell Medical Center of Cornell University. & New York City Department for the Aging. (2011) Under the Radar: New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study. New York: Author.

National Center on Elder Abuse, Westat, Inc. (1998). The national elder abuse incidence study: Final report. Washington D.C.: Authors.

#### ELDER ABUSE COSTS VICTIMS billions of dollars EACH YEAR.

The annual financial loss by victims of elder financial exploitation was estimated to be **\$2.9 billion** in 2009, a 12% increase from 2008.

National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, Virginia Tech, Metlife Mature Market Institute (2011). The metlife study of elder financial abuse: Crimes of occasion, desperation and predation against America's elders. Westport, CT: Author.

### ELDER ABUSE IS ASSOCIATED WITH *increased rates* OF HOSPITALIZATION IN THE COMMUNITY POPULATION.

Older adults who experienced abuse or neglect were **twice as likely** to be hospitalized than other seniors.

Dong X, Simon MA. Elder Abuse as a Risk Factor for Hospitalization in Older Persons. JAMA Intern Med. 2013;173(10):911-917. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2013.238.



## NEARLY **1** in **2** PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA EXPERIENCE SOME FORM OF ABUSE BY OTHERS.

Cooper, C, Selwood, A, Blanchard, M., Walker, Z., Blizard, R., & Livingston, G. (2009) Abuse of people with dementia by family carers: Representative cross sectional survey. British Medical Journal, 338, b155.

Wiglesworth A, Mosqueda L, Mulnard R, Liao S, Gibbs L, & Fitzgerald W. (2010). Screening for abuse and neglect of people with dementia. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.58(3), 493–500.



# SURVIVORS OF ELDER MISTREATMENT SUFFER Significantly higher levels OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS THAN NON-VICTIMS.

Comijs, H.C, Penninx, B.W.J.H., Knipscheer, K.P.M., and van Tilburg, W. (1999), Psychological Distress in Victims of Elder Mistreatment: The Effects of Social Support and Coping. J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci 54B(4): P240-P245.

# ELDERS WHO EXPERIENCE MISTREATMENT AND SELF-NEGLECT FACE A **greater risk** of DYING SOONER.

Lachs MS, Williams CS, O'Brien S, Pillemer KA, Charlson ME. (1998). The mortality of elder mistreatment. Journal of the American Medical Association; 280(5): 428-432.



MORE THAN **41 MILLION** AMERICANS ARE 65 OR OLDER, AND ELDERS COMPRISE A GROWING PROPORTION OF THE U.S. POPULATION.

U.S. Census Facts for Features: Older Americans Month: 2013



#### In conclusion...

Elder Abuse is a major public health problem with significant impact on millions of people. The NCEA is at the forefront of the national fight against elder abuse. To learn more and get involved visit **ncea.aoa.gov**.



PREPARED FOR **NCEA** BY:



Visit us online for more resources! **www.ncea.aoa.gov** Find us on Facebook, YouTube and POPVOX.

This document was completed for the National Center on Elder Abuse and is supported in part by a grant (No. 90AB0002/01) from the Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). 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 Administration on Aging or DHHS policy.