



MILWAUKEE WOMEN'S CENTER

Where Abuse Ends and Hope Begins

*A Division of Community Advocates*

## **ELDERLY AND THE CITY**

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October 30, 2015

**WISCONSIN STATUTE 46.90 – “Elder Adult at Risk”**  
means any person age 60 or older who has experienced, is currently experiencing or is at risk to experience abuse.

- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Treatment without Consent
- Unreasonable Confinement or Restraint
- Financial Exploitation
- Neglect
- Self-Neglect



**MILWAUKEE WOMEN’S CENTER IDENTIFIES  
ELDER AS 50 OR OLDER.....**

# ELDER ABUSE IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY



- Elder abuse reported to Milwaukee County's Aging Resource Center
- Social Workers and Nursing staff (investigate, determine need and coordinate services)
- Investigations begin within 24 hours
- 153,000+ elders served
- 3,400 cases reported
- 2030 substantiated – 46% living in home with someone/one person
- Elders abused in CBRFs are reported to the State Department of Health & Family Services

# ELDER ABUSE WHAT'S DIFFERENT?

- Additional shame and guilt
- Unique and powerful bond between mother and child
- Being blamed as “poor mothers/parents
- Less likely to want legal advocacy
- Complete separation not likely
- Historical Trauma
- Fears of the criminal justice system



## DIFFERENCES CONTINUED:



- Religious community is their support system
- Health Issues
- Isolation (monitoring calls, mail, internet/email)
- Lack of technology or understanding
- Lack of education on domestic abuse or resources
- Traditions/language – services may cause assimilation

# OLDER AND YOUNGER VICTIMS SERVICE PROVISION DIFFERENCES

- Shelter Care (rooms, privacy, and assistance)
- Services focused on domestic partners verses individuals and groups on child perpetrators
- Outreach inclusive of in-home services
- Safety Planning
- Self-sufficiency
- Financial Stability
- Basic Needs



# DIFFERENT ISSUES FACING URBAN ELDER VICTIMS



- Age of people receiving services in Wisconsin 50+
- Perpetrators are boyfriends or acquaintances
- Social Media
- Social Clubs and Events (Swingers and Sexual Sets)
- Introduction to New Sexual Behaviors enhancing the possibility of sexual assault
- Mental Health Undiagnosed/Misdiagnosed

# DIFFERENCES CONTINUED:

- Substance Abuse
- Boarding Houses
- Transgenerational Dynamics – children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren
- Spouses/Partners of perpetrators
- Income, Poverty and Underemployment
- Living Alone in Changing Neighborhoods (fear and criminal activity)

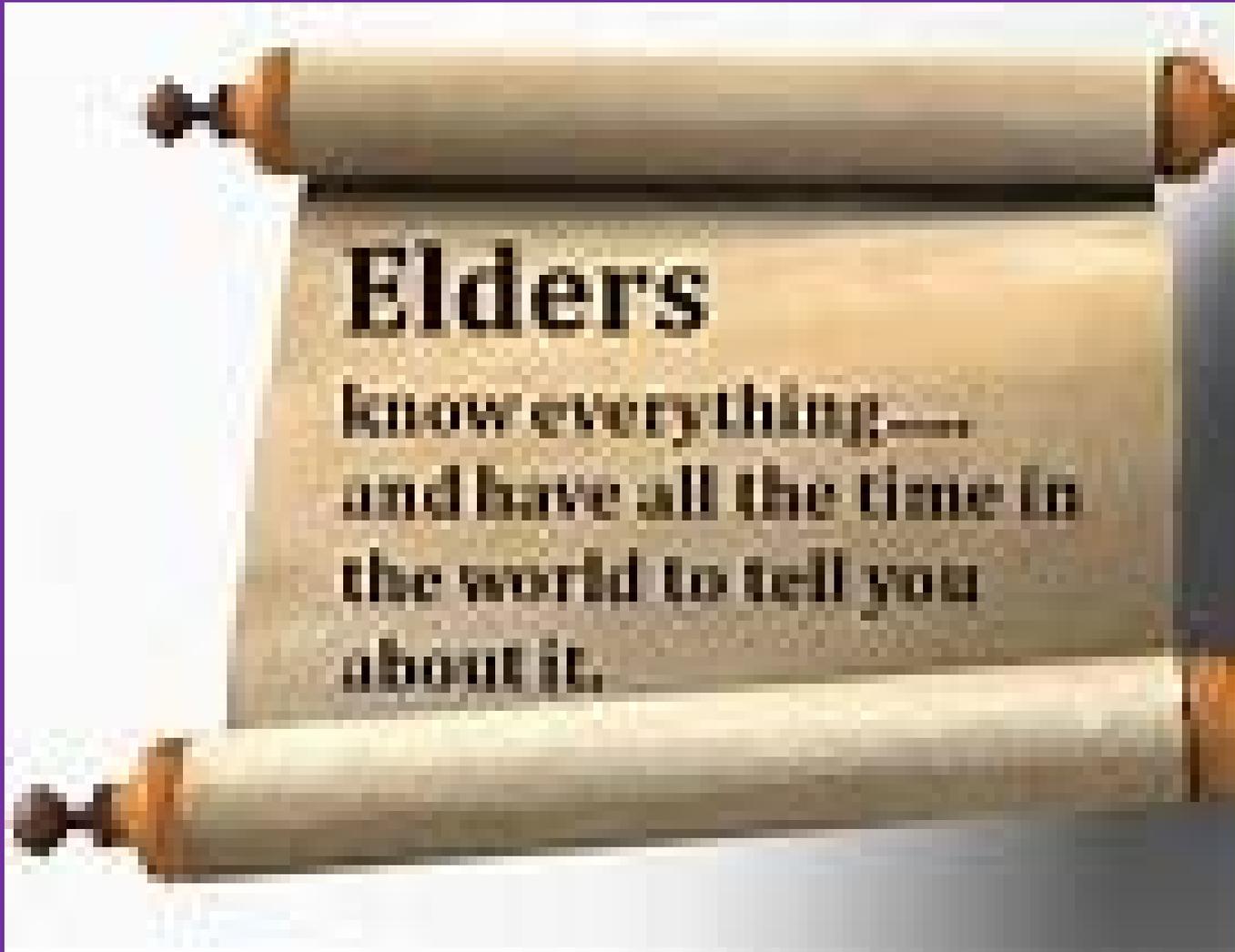
# SERVICES OFFERED FOR ADDITIONAL NEEDS

- Housing
- Employment
- Education
- Basic Needs
- Transportation
- Relocation
- Legal Services
- Social Security Disability



# COORDINATED EFFORTS

- I-TEAM
- LATER LIFE COALITION
- IMPACT 211
- SOUTHEASTERN DV DIRECTORS
- END ABUSE WISCONSIN
- MPD AND COUNTY PROVIDERS
- TRAINING
- COMMUNITY PROVIDERS OF ELDER SERVICES
- COOKIES AND CONVERSATION 2013/15 AREA  
PLAN MCDA

A scroll with text on a purple background. The scroll is unrolled, showing the text. The scroll is made of a light-colored material, possibly parchment or paper, and is held by wooden rollers. The text is written in a serif font. The background is a solid purple color.

# Elders

know everything, —  
and have all the time in  
the world to tell you  
about it.

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QUESTIONS????????????