

HUNTERDON COUNTY DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES COMMEMORATES WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY (WEAAD) 2017



Please join our local effort to raise awareness about elder abuse in our community by wearing **purple** to show your support on **Thursday, June 15, 2017.**

Did you know that **every day 10,000 people turn 65** in the US alone? That trend is going to continue for nearly the next 20 years. Our demographics are shifting, and we will soon have more elder people in the US than ever before. At the same time that the population is growing, we know that a startling number of elders face abusive conditions. Every year an estimated **5 million, or 1 in 10, older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation.** And that's only part of the picture: Experts believe that **for every case of elder abuse or neglect reported, as many as 23.5 cases go unreported.**

The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations launched the first World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on June 15, 2006 in an effort to unite communities around the world in raising awareness about elder abuse. WEAAD is in support of the UN's International Plan of Action acknowledging the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue.

If you would like more information about this topic, please visit the links below.

Red Flags of Elder Abuse: <http://eldermistreatment.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Red-Flags-of-Elder-Abuse-2015.pdf>

12 Things Anyone Can Do to Help Prevent Elder Abuse: <http://eldermistreatment.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/12-Things-Anyone-Can-Do-to-Prevent-Elder-Abuse.pdf>

Elder Justice Initiative: <https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice>

If you know an adult who is being abused, neglected or exploited in Hunterdon County, please call Adult Protective Services at (908) 788-1300.