



# You Can!

## Break the Silence About Elder Abuse



### What is Elder Abuse and Neglect?

Elder abuse is the mistreatment of older adults aged 60 and older. Mistreatment can include physical, sexual, and emotional abuse; neglect; and/or financial exploitation by family members or others with an ongoing personal relationship. Many cases go undetected and unreported.

### Ask for help if your caregiver, a family member, or someone else close to you...

- is hurting you or threatening to hurt you.
- won't let you see friends, family, or your doctor.
- is not providing food or medications.
- is taking your money or things you value.
- is signing your name without permission.
- is asking you to sign papers you don't understand.



### If you or someone you know is being harmed...

- Tell a trusted family member, friend, or religious advisor.
- Tell a medical or financial professional, such as your doctor or a bank teller.
- Contact the confidential Elder Abuse Hotline to connect with your local Protective Services agency.

If you are a victim of abuse, you may feel embarrassed, afraid, or concerned no one will believe you. Everyone deserves to feel safe, including you.

**Minuteman Senior Services' Protective Services program** assists individuals aged 60 and older, who live in the community, by investigating allegations of abuse and neglect. Protective Service Workers meet with you confidentially to identify ways to keep you safe, including offering resources and supports.

**Call the Elder Abuse Hotline at 800-922-2275**

Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All calls are free and confidential.

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[www.MinutemanSenior.org](http://www.MinutemanSenior.org)

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