

INDICATORS OF ABUSE

- Cuts, bruises, bites, burns
- Sudden onset of confusion or loss of clarity
- Untreated bedsores
- Poor hygiene
- Withdrawal
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Fear of family members, friends or caregivers
- Suddenly unable to afford food, clothing or other necessities
- Missing personal items
- Sudden changes in an older adult's Last Will and Testament
- Unusual withdrawals from an older adult's bank account
- An older adult being pressured into signing legal documents that they cannot explain

This pamphlet contains general information only.
Each situation is unique.

RESOURCES

GREATER SUDBURY POLICE SERVICE

EMERGENCY: CALL 911

190 BRADY STREET
SUDBURY, ONTARIO
P3E 1C7
(705)675-9171

SENIORS LIAISON OFFICER

(705)675-9171 ext. 2104

OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE

SUDBURY ELDER
ABUSE COMMITTEE
(705)524-5738

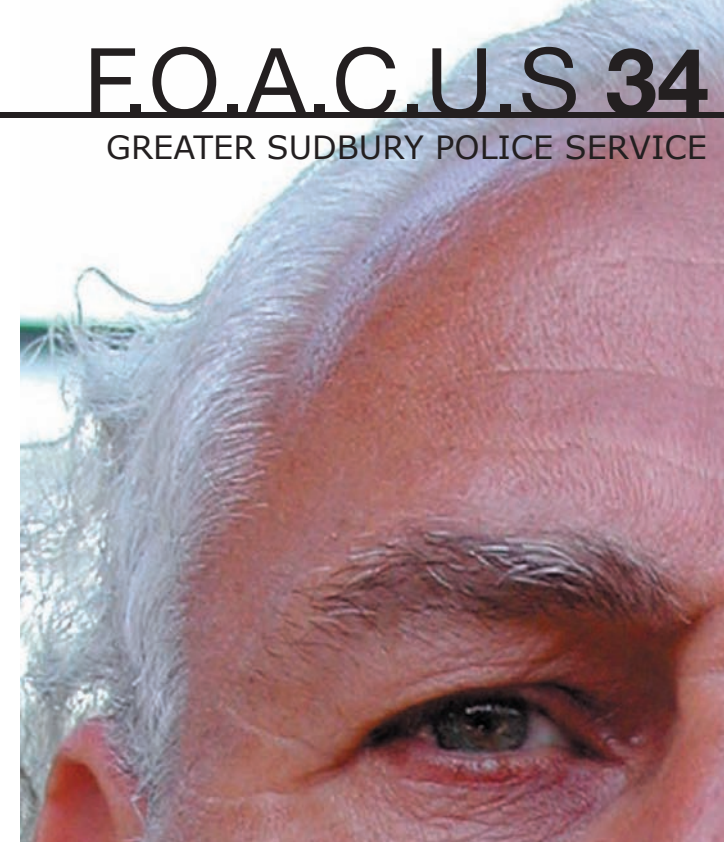
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY
COMMUNITY CARE
ACCESS CENTRE
(705)522-3461

LONG-TERM CARE ACTION LINE
1-866-434-0144



F.O.A.C.U.S 34

GREATER SUDBURY POLICE SERVICE



ABUSE OF OLDER ADULTS

FREE OF ABUSE, COMMUNITY
UNITED FOR SENIORS IN THEIR
3rd AND 4th LIFE STAGE



WHAT IS ABUSE?

DEFINITION:

“Any act that harms or threatens to harm the health or well-being of an older adult. Forms of abuse include psychological abuse, financial and physical, as well as neglect and sexual assault.”

Ministry of the Solicitor General, Policing Standards Manual, 2000.

WHAT CAUSES ABUSE OF OLDER ADULTS?

Many factors may lead to inadequate care and abuse of the older adult. Factors that may lead to abuse:

- Previous history of abuse in a family
- Financial problems
- Inadequate housing
- Chronic health problems
- Caregiver burnout

TYPES OF ABUSE

FINANCIAL

- A person in a position of trust (Power of Attorney, caregiver, family, neighbour, workman, etc.) withholding money, forcing a senior to sell or sign over property, possessions or demanding changes in an older adult's Last Will and Testament.
- Most frequently reported

PSYCHOLOGICAL

- Treating an older adult like a child, bullying, name calling, humiliation, intimidation, harassment
- Isolation (restricting family visits, social outings, etc.)
- Second most frequently reported

PHYSICAL

- Pushing, shaking, hitting, rough handling or sexually assaulting
- Over/under-medicating
- Use of restraints

NEGLECT

- Leaving an older adult in an unsafe or isolated place.
- “Forgetting” to provide the necessities of life (food, heat, appropriate seasonal clothing, appropriate clean shelter, medication, medical aids, medical care.)

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

An older person may require the assistance from various agencies. **YOU** can help by contacting agencies and then discussing the services with the older adult.

CALL POLICE WHEN...

You suspect assault, sexual assault, theft, fraud, forgery, forcible confinement and/or failing to provide the necessities of life.