

Vision Statement

A community where seniors and dependent adults can live to their fullest capacity, free from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Mission Statement

Interagency collaboration resolved to empower seniors and dependent adults in the pursuit of safety by providing resources, personalized intervention, targeted education and advocacy.

Information

To schedule a Community Education Seminar/Presentation or a Mandated Reporter Training or for more information:

Email: CARE@Rivco.org



CALL APS
TO REPORT
ELDER OR DEPENDENT
ADULT ABUSE

800-491-7123

24 HOURS A DAY

Curtailing
Abuse
Related to the
Elderly &
Dependent Adults



DPSS 3711 (REV. 9/2019)



Riverside County
Department of Public Social Services
Adult Services Division

What is C.A.R.E.?

The Curtailing Abuse Related to the Elderly (C.A.R.E.) Program is a branch of DPSS Adult Services that addresses elder and dependent adult abuse through advocacy, education, training, and coordination of interagency collaboration.

C.A.R.E. Program

CONSUMER FRAUD ADVOCACY

C.A.R.E. Program staff provide support and intervention to elder and dependent adult victims of consumer fraud by working with multiple community partners, including state regulatory agencies, law enforcement, and the courts. C.A.R.E. Program Coordinators meet with clients to provide assistance in reviewing documents, writing letters, completing forms, identifying resources and providing general support to victims throughout the investigation process. The goals of C.A.R.E. Program advocacy are to guard or regain assets, preserve client dignity, protect privacy, and prevent future abuse.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

C.A.R.E. Program staff provide education designed to prevent fraud and abuse. Anti-fraud presentations are conducted in the community to teach seniors and dependent adults how to recognize, prevent, and report fraud and abuse. Trainings are conducted in a variety of settings, including mobile home parks, senior centers, care facilities, or other places seniors and dependent adults gather.

The Mandated Reporter Training program provides education to law enforcement, medical providers, banking professionals, service providers, and community volunteers. The purpose of the training is to ensure that mandated reporters recognize signs of abuse or neglect that may threaten a person's safety and well-being and understand their obligations to report.

C.A.R.E. Team

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM (MDT) COORDINATION

The C.A.R.E. Team is a multidisciplinary team, consisting of professionals from various community agencies, who are experts from an array of disciplines. The C.A.R.E. Team strives to improve coordination and cooperation among service providers and public safety organizations to combat the abuse of elders and dependent adults throughout Riverside County. Team members discuss complex cases, identify unique resources, share best practices to combat abuse, and work together to protect and advocate for the client, as well as pursue the prosecution of offenders under Penal Code 368, California's elder abuse law.

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Recognizing Abuse

Under California law, the abuse of an **elder** (person 65 or older) or **dependent adult** (person, 18 to 64, who due to a mental or physical limitation is unable to carry out normal activities of daily living) is a crime. Abuse is defined as:

Physical Abuse: Hitting, punching, dragging, pulling hair or arms, burning, pinching, restraining, over or under medicating, etc.

Sexual Abuse: Sexual battery, rape, unwanted touching and spousal rape. It can also include convincing a victim, who is mentally impaired, to have sex.

Neglect: Failure to provide needed care, including: basic body hygiene, clean and safe housing, adequate food and liquid, clean appropriate clothing, medical aids and supervision for individuals who lack mental capacity or who are developmentally delayed.

Psychological Abuse: The infliction of fear, anguish, or other emotional distress to include the threatening of withdrawing care. The abuse may also include isolating the victim from friends and family.

Abandonment: Leaving the victim without care when the average person would know that this would endanger the victim.

Self-Neglect: Failure to provide oneself with needed care, food, shelter and clothing because of a mental or physical disability. Self-neglect is NOT a crime but needs to be reported so the individual can receive help.