12 Things that Anyone Can Do to Prevent Elder Abuse

1. Learn the **signs of elder abuse and neglect**.
2. Call or visit an elderly loved one and ask how he or she is doing.
3. Provide a respite **break for a caregiver**.
4. Ask your bank manager to train tellers on how to detect elder financial abuse.
5. Ask your doctor to ask you and all other senior patients about possible family violence in their lives.
6. Contact your local Adult Protective Services or Long-Term Care Ombudsman to learn how to support their work helping at-risk elders and adults with disabilities.
7. Organize a “**Respect Your Elders**” essay or poster contest in your child’s school.
8. Ask your religious congregation’s leader to **give a talk about elder abuse** at a service or to put a message about elder abuse in the bulletin.
9. **Volunteer to be a friendly visitor** to a nursing home resident or to a homebound senior in your neighborhood.
10. Send a letter to your local paper, radio or TV station suggesting that they cover World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15) or Grandparents Day in September.
11. Dedicate your **bikeathon/marathon/other event** to elder mistreatment awareness and prevention.
12. **Join the Ageless Alliance**. Ageless Alliance connects people of all ages, nationwide, who stand united for the dignity of older adults and for the elimination of elder abuse. You can join (it’s free) and get involved at agelessalliance.org.

As the mandated provider of Adult Protective Services (APS) in Cuyahoga County, the Division of Senior and Adult Services (DSAS) proudly supports Elder Abuse Awareness Month and Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, 2015. We are using these campaigns, along with our community partners, to break the silence around elder abuse. We all have a responsibility to support the safety, welfare, and dignity of Cuyahoga County’s vulnerable and older adults. We urge all citizens to work together to help protect adults from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. If you would like one of our APS Staff to share information to seniors and families of your organization, or for more information, feel free to visit our website at http://dsas.cuyahogacounty.us.

To report an incident of elder abuse, neglect or exploitation, please call our Intake Line at 216.420.6700

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY DIVISION OF SENIOR AND ADULT SERVICES**

Services & Solutions for Better Living

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