

## WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?

*Elder Abuse is experiencing harm or distress as a result of the actions of someone that you trust. There are six forms of Elder Abuse, and sometimes a combination of these may occur at once:*

### FINANCIAL

Using your money or assets illegally or improperly, or forcing you to change your will or sign documents.

### EMOTIONAL

Threats, humiliation, or harassment that makes you feel anguish, shame, or helplessness.

### PHYSICAL

Inflicting pain &/or injury by hitting, slapping, pushing, or restraining you.

### SOCIAL

Preventing your contact with relatives, friends, service providers, or activities.

### NEGLECT

The intentional or unintentional failure to provide you with basic necessities of life.

### SEXUAL

Any sexual activity for which you have not given consent.

For information regarding services for seniors in your local area, contact your local council:

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Ararat Rural City Council | 03 5355 0200 |
| City of Ballarat          | 03 5320 5500 |
| Golden Plains Shire       | 03 5220 7111 |
| Hepburn Shire             | 03 5348 2306 |
| Moorabool Shire           | 03 5366 7100 |
| Pyrenees Shire            | 03 5349 1100 |



Seniors Rights Victoria, the Central Highlands Integrated Family Violence Committee, & Ballarat Community Health are working with the Victorian State Government to develop an Elder Abuse Prevention Network for the Central Highlands Region.

# ELDER ABUSE

# OLDER PEOPLE HAVE RIGHTS

As an older person, you have the right to live safely, to make your own decisions, and to be treated with dignity and respect.



CALL 000 IF  
POLICE  
ASSISTANCE  
IS REQUIRED

## HELP & ADVICE IS AVAILABLE

Your GP, & any of these services can assist you with advice regarding any form of elder abuse:

|              |                                  |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 1300 364 277 | Relationships Australia Victoria |
| 1300 368 821 | Seniors Rights Victoria          |
| 1300 033 818 | Centacare                        |
| 13 11 44     | Lifeline                         |
| 1800 737 732 | 1800 Respect                     |

These services provide legal &/or financial advice & support:

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 03 5331 5999 | Central Highlands Community Legal Centre |
| 03 5337 3333 | CAFS Financial                           |
| 1300 792 387 | Victoria Legal Aid                       |

These services provide response to family violence, including elder abuse:

|              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| 03 5331 3558 | Berry Street (Women only) |
| 03 5333 3666 | WRISC (Women Only)        |
| 1300 766 491 | Men's Referral Service    |

This service provides counselling & support for sexual abuse:

|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 1800 806 292 | Centre Against Sexual Assault |
|--------------|-------------------------------|

Aboriginal specific support services:

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| 03 5331 5344 | B A D A C |
|--------------|-----------|

These services provide counselling for people experiencing elder abuse:

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| 03 5338 4500 | Ballarat Community Health  |
| 03 5358 7400 | Grampians Community Health |