



Department of Elder Affairs

800-532-3213

Linda Hildreth – State Elder Abuse System Coordinator

Southwest 8 Senior Services, Inc. (Area 13)

Aubury Krueger (712) 328-2540
Shannon O'Neill 800-432-9209

The Heritage Agency (Area 10)

Linda Dearinger 319-398-5559
800-332-5934

Subcontractors:

* Aging Services Inc. 319-398-3644
* Elder Services, Inc. 319-338-0515

Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging (Area 6 & 7)

Doug Shepard 641-751-3045
800-331-8906

Kristi Shannon & Rebecca Vogel 319-272-2493
319-231-1623
800-779-8707

Northwest Aging Association (Area 3)

Julie Johnson 712-262-1775 ext. 17
or 800-242-5033



The Iowa Elder Abuse Initiative

Iowa Department of Elder Affairs

Southwest 8 Senior Services, Inc.

The Heritage Agency

Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging

Northwest Aging Association

The Elder Abuse Initiative (EAI) focuses on the prevention, intervention, detection and reporting of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation by presenting elders with options to enhance their lifestyle choices.

HOW IT WORKS

The Elder Abuse Initiative (EAI) is a service delivery system created through partnerships with the Area Agencies on Aging, the Department of Human Services (DHS), law enforcement, county attorney's, providers, and other stakeholders in the community. Referrals are received from the community, law enforcement and DHS. When these calls are received, the Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) contacts the client and makes an assessment of needs, identifies potential or real risk, provides an evaluation of dependency and coordinates service delivery.

Objectives

- Respond to reported concerns of elders at risk of, or experiencing, abuse, neglect or exploitation;
- Network and coordinate community resources to respond to the needs of the targeted population;
- Collaborate and be a resource for case managers, physicians, law enforcement, county attorneys, DHS, domestic violence agencies and long term care facilities;
- Locally increase public awareness on elder abuse issues; and
- Enhance the quality of mandatory reporter training in local areas.

Result: Vulnerable elders & community stakeholders gain information about available services and support systems, which allow elders to live at home with greater comfort and security.

Warning Signs of Possible Abuse

- Lack of environmental needs or unsafe structures
- Mail / newspaper not collected
- Lack of cleanliness, grooming, personal or medical care
- Significant weight loss, malnutrition, dehydration
- Withdrawal, depression or isolation
- Unexplained injuries or injuries inconsistent with the explanation
- Advancing memory difficulties
- Family relying on elder's finances, unusual spending, new poverty

According to the Journal of National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Fall 2003 Issue, "84% of elder abuse cases go unreported and 40% of all elder abuse involves some form of financial exploitation."