

Adult Foster Home Provider Alert

Policy updates, rule clarifications and announcements

Date: January 15, 2022
To: APD Adult Foster Home Providers
From: Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit
Topic: **Elder Abuse Awareness Month**

June is elder abuse awareness month

The [Older Americans Act of 1965](#) states as one of its 10 objectives that “the older people of our Nation are entitled to...freedom, independence, and the free exercise of individual initiative in planning and managing their own lives, full participation in the planning and operation of community-based services and programs provided for their benefit, and protection against abuse, neglect, and exploitation.” (Title I, Section 101, objective 10).

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was launched on June 15, 2006, by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations.

The purpose of WEAAD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.

In addition, WEAAD is in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action acknowledging the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue. WEAAD serves as a call-to-action for individuals,

organization, and communities to raise awareness about elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

What is adult abuse?

In Oregon Elder abuse is defined under Adult Abuse. Adult abuse is the abuse of any older adult aged 65 and over and adults with developmental or physical disabilities or mental illness under the age of 65.

Types of Elder Abuse include:

- Financial exploitation
- Neglect
- Verbal abuse
- Physical abuse & abandonment
- Sexual abuse
- Seclusion and restraint

Adult Abuse Prevention Programs

[Oregon Department of Justice - Consumer Protection and Financial Fraud](#)

The Consumer Protection section of the Oregon Department of Justice receives consumer complaints to identify and eliminate threats to Oregon consumers. A consumer complaint form can be found on their website.

[Long-Term Care Ombudsman](#)

The Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman is an independent state agency providing advocacy and complaint investigation for Oregon's citizens living in nursing facilities, residential care facilities, assisted living facilities, and adult foster care homes.

[Oregon Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance Program \(SHIBA\)](#)

SHIBA provides free services to educate, assist, and serve as advocates for Oregonians with Medicare. SHIBA volunteers help people with Medicare understand their rights and options in health insurance so that they can make informed choices.

Report abuse or neglect

If you suspect abuse, neglect or financial exploitation of an elderly person or an adult with physical disabilities, [report the abuse or neglect](#) to the Oregon Department of Human Services office in your area.

Oregon abuse reporting hotline
1-855-503-SAFE (7233)

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the APD AFH program at APD.AFHteam@dhsosha.state.or.us