

# Frontline Prevention



*Reporting abuse of older adults in Oregon*

Presenter Thomas Swartz

# OAAPI's Mission

Partnering to achieve service equity by preventing abuse, protecting people in need, engaging our communities, valuing those who do the work and committing to quality in all we do.

# OAAPI Provides Support

160 APD  
investigators  
(State/AAA)

58 county DD  
investigators

**2015 - 43,000**  
reports of  
possible abuse

**Quality  
Management  
&  
Prevention**

58 county MH  
investigators

**Policy  
&  
Legal Affairs**

**Investigations  
&  
Field Operations**



# Abuse prevention





# Community responsibility

*Are you required to report?*

# Who are Mandatory Reporters?

- Physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists naturopaths, interns, physician assistants, residents
- Personal Support Workers, Home Care Workers
- Psychologists, psychiatrists
- Clergy · Attorneys · Dentists
- Speech, physical & occupational therapists
- Info & referral, crisis, outreach workers
- Legislature members
- DHS/OHA personnel
- County staff health, mental health, developmental disabilities programs
- AAA Services
- Senior center employees
- Family/guardians/legal counsel of nursing facility residents
- Adult foster home licensees
- CCA employees
- Licensed Nurses (RN and LPN)
- CNAs, CMAs, home health employees, nurse practitioners
- Regulated social workers, licensed counselors and marriage and family therapists
- Peace officers, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians



# What does mandatory reporter mean?



Mandatory reporters have to report suspected abuse immediately for:

- ✓ Children – 24/7
- ✓ Adults 65 or older – 24/7

*While "on duty" for people experiencing:*

*Mental Illness or Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities*



***What if a mandatory reporter...***

***...fails to report?***

**Possibilities:**

- **Loss of professional license**
- **Loss of ability to work within Medicaid services**
- **Possible legal penalties**

*To report suspected abuse call:*

1-855-503- 7233 (**SAFE**)

Local APS Office  
ADRC

Law Enforcement Agency



**911**

# Sample call - Stanley



# Vulnerability and Risk



- Memory
- Physical challenges
- Decline in overall health
- Chronic health concerns

# Vulnerability and Risk

- Social isolation
- Dependency on others
- Living with others
- No family close by
- Few close, long-term relationships
- Little community support



# Vulnerability and Risk



- Housekeeping needs
- Home repair needs
- Upgrades in technology



## Types of Abuse: Physical Abuse



- Using physical force that may cause pain or harm
- A physical injury that is not an accident

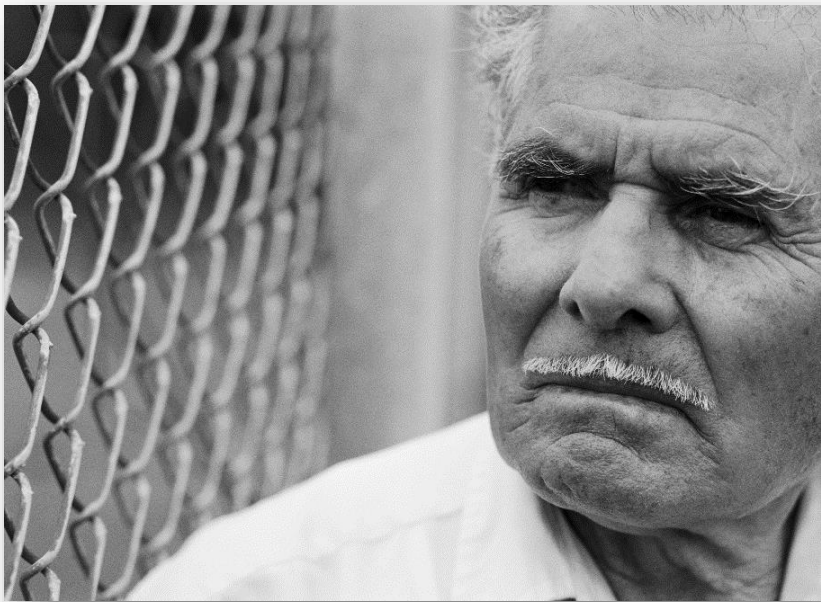


## Types of Abuse: Neglect



Not providing basic care or health and safety to a vulnerable person when there is a responsibility to do so.

## Types of Abuse: Abandonment



Deserting a person whom you agreed to provide care:

- resulting in a harm
- or risk of serious harm

## Types of Abuse: Verbal or Emotional



Written, spoken, or gestured, directed to the vulnerable person causing significant anguish or distress

# Types of Abuse: Financial Exploitation



Taking money, things, or property without permission

Taking a person's medication

Spending money on things that are not for person's benefit

# Types of Abuse: Sexual Abuse



Unwanted sexual contact

Sexual harassment

Any sexual crime

Sexual contact with a paid provider unless the two are spouses

# Types of Abuse: Involuntary Seclusion



## Someone is restricting:

- contact or activities with family or friends
- phone, mail, email
- person - limited area of the house

# Types of Abuse: Physical or Chemical Restraint

- Tying a person to a chair or bed
- Using medication to get person to sleep for the convenience of the caregiver



# Types of Abuse: Self-Neglect



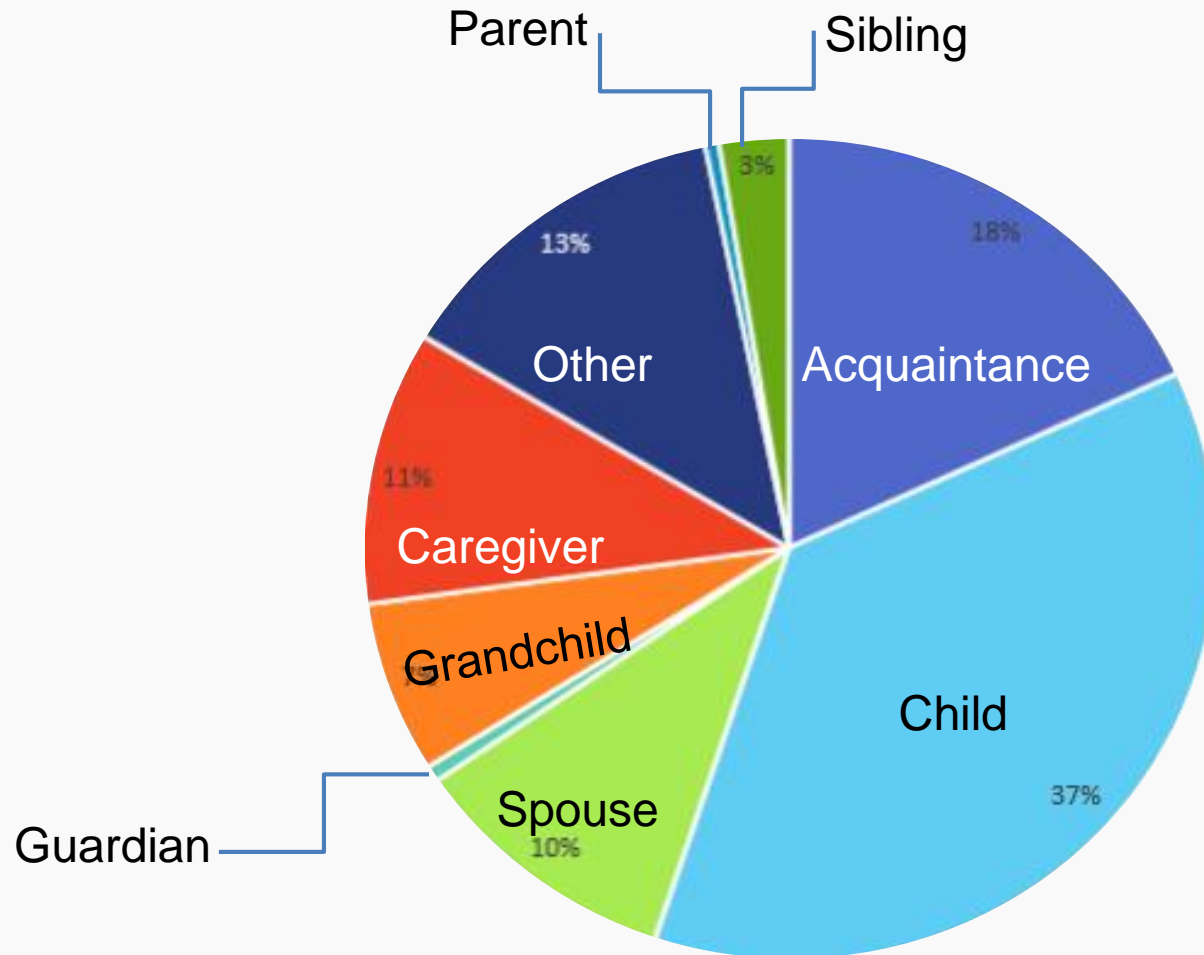
- does not involve wrongdoing
- does involve harm or risk of harm.



# Sample call - A father and his sons



# Relationship of Abuser Statistics



\* 2015 OAAPI Statistics

## Be watchful when....



### Protected person has:

- Personal stress
- Severe external stress
- Financial stress

### Caregiver has:

- Personal/financial stress
- Lives with the victim
- Depends on the victim

*Remember to always....*



- Watch
- Listen
- Communicate
- Collaborate
- Take action

What can I do?

Tell us about it!

1-855-503-SAFE (7233)

Local APS Office  
ADRC

Law Enforcement Agency

**911**





What do I say when I call?

- The name of victim
  - Where event happened
  - What you saw or heard
  - Name of possible abuser
  - Your contact information
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- *You can remain anonymous*
  - *You can ask to be kept in the loop*

# What happens to my call?



Thank you!

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**OAAPI**

Office of Adult Abuse Prevention & Investigation

