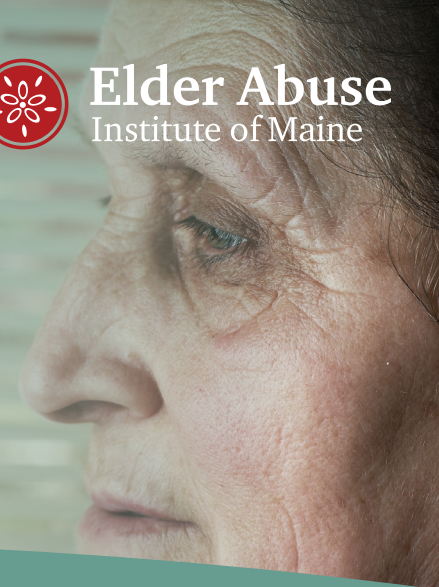


Help should not be a four letter word



Elder Abuse
Institute of Maine



Asking for help is not easy. It requires admitting that something is not right. It requires giving up control. It may result in change. And it could trigger feelings of shame.

But we all need help now and again. And for an older person who is suffering from the physical or emotional harm inflicted by another, asking for help just may save her life.

You can make it easier for an older person in need to ask for help by offering it.

To make a report or for more information, call toll-free (24 hours): **1-800-624-8404**

What can we do as a society to prevent elder abuse?

- » Educate ourselves about the dynamics and signs.
- » Get involved in local community groups such as TRIAD.
- » Break the isolation of elders by reaching out to them.
- » Notice and ask about changes in elders in your family or community.

No one wants to think elder abuse happens—but it does—and almost 84% of cases are never reported because victims are too afraid or ashamed to ask for help. Don't let this be the case in your community. Worldwide awareness begins with you.

If you suspect abuse call toll-free (24 hours) **1-800-624-8404**

Confidentiality

Adult Protective Services maintains confidentiality of reporters except in very limited circumstance.

Immunity

Anyone who makes a report in good faith is protected under the law if someone files a suit in a civil court.

For more resources or further detailed information, visit the website of Adult Protective Services go to: www.maine.gov/dhhs/oes/aps/index.shtml

For online training regarding Mandated Reporting: www.maine.gov/dhhs/oes/aps/training/index.htm

For more information regarding the Elder Abuse Institute of Maine, visit our website at www.eaime.org

This flyer was created by the Elder Abuse Institute of Maine.

Promoting Awareness Safety and Prevention www.eaime.org