

Elder Abuse Fatality Review Team.

Effective June 1, 2009 the EAN Act was amended to include provisions giving the Department, or any other State or county agency with Department approval, the right to establish regional interagency elder abuse fatality review teams. The purpose of an Elder Abuse Fatality Review Team (EAFRT) is to review suspicious deaths of persons aged 60 years of age or older who reside in a domestic living situation. The counties of Boone/Winnebago, Kane, DuPage, and Madison each have an EAFRT. The passage of P.A. 96-526, effective January 1, 2010, gave provider agencies the right to share information with coroners.

Fiscal Year 2010 Accomplishments

B*SAFE (Bankers and Seniors Against Financial Exploitation). Fourteen trainings were conducted by elder abuse caseworkers to 337 bank personnel and seniors throughout the state on how to identify financial exploitation, scams and other types of abuse.

The training included how to follow simple guidelines for reporting suspicious circumstances to the Department's Elder Abuse and Neglect Program and to law enforcement.

23rd Annual Elder Rights Conference. The Department sponsored its 23rd annual Elder Rights Conference July 15-17, 2009 in Lincolnshire. Holly Ramsey-Klawnsnik, Ph.D., presented a Pre-Conference Intensive on effective and ineffective approaches to service delivery. The Keynote Speaker was Paul Greenwood, Deputy District Attorney in San Diego known for prosecuting over 200 felony cases of both physical and financial elder abuse. The conference ended with a closing session entitled "Multi-Disciplinary and Collaborative Approaches: Bringing It All Together, Working as a Team" presented by Daniel Sheridan, Ph.D., R.N., Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing in Baltimore, MD. Over 300 people from throughout the state attended the conference.



How does a person make an elder abuse report?

**Anyone who suspects that an older adult
is being mistreated should call the
Illinois Department on Aging
24 hour Elder Abuse Hotline at**


1-866-800-1409

TTY: 1-888-206-1327

All calls are confidential.

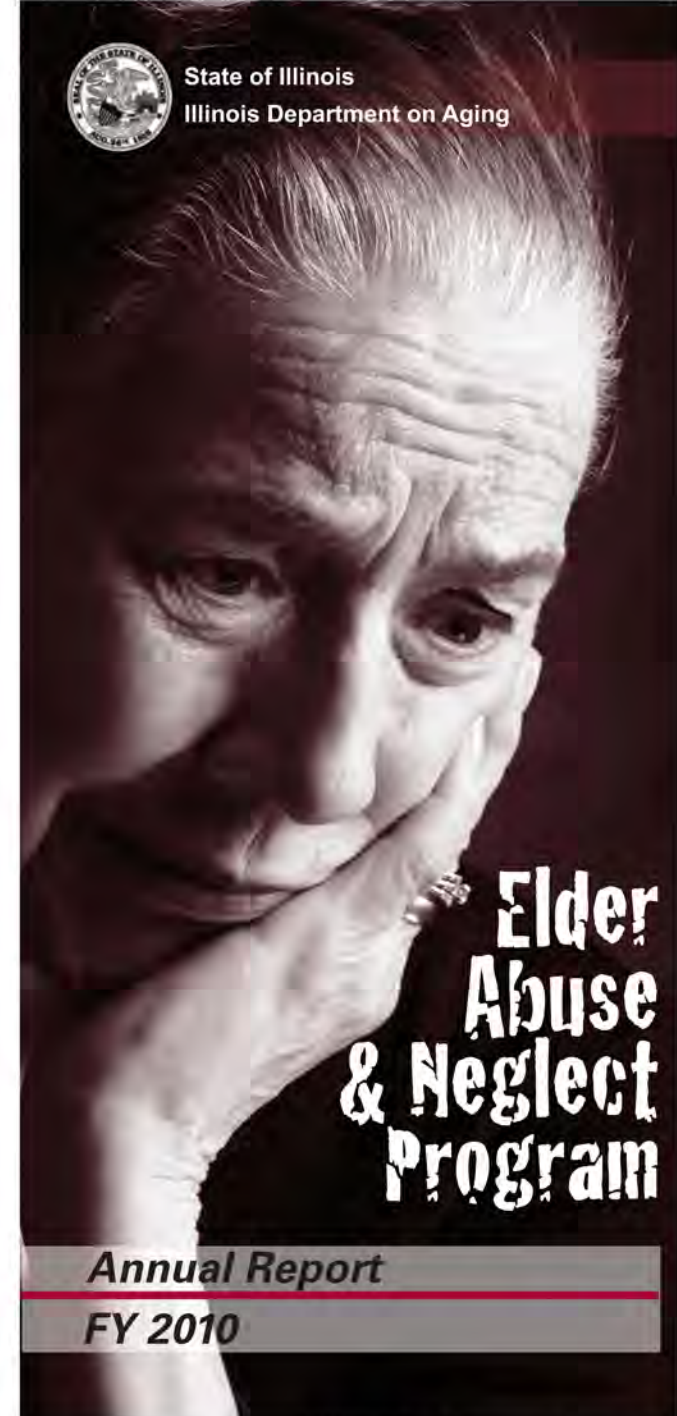
**State of Illinois
Department on Aging**
One Natural Resources Way, #100,
Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
Senior HelpLine: 1-800-252-8966
www.state.il.us/aging

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in compliance with appropriate State and Federal Statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966, 1-888-206-1327 (TTY).

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State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging



**Elder
Abuse
& Neglect
Program**

Annual Report

FY 2010

Illinois Department
on **Aging**



How many reports of elder abuse were received?

During the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 there were 10,308 reports of elder abuse received by the program.

What is elder abuse?

Elder abuse refers to the following types of mistreatment of any Illinois resident 60 years of age or older who lives in the community and is abused by another person.

Physical Abuse – causing the infliction of physical pain or injury to an older person.

Sexual Abuse – touching, fondling, or any other sexual activity with an older person when the older person is unable to understand, unwilling to consent, threatened, or physically forced.

Emotional Abuse – verbal assaults, threats of abuse, harassment, or intimidation so as to compel the older person to engage in conduct from which s/he has a right to abstain or to refrain from conduct in which the older person has a right to engage.

Confinement – restraining or isolating an older person for other than medical reasons.

Passive Neglect – the failure by a caregiver to provide an older person with the necessities of life including, but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, or medical care, because of failure to understand the older person's needs, lack of awareness of services to help meet needs, or lack of capacity to care for the older person.

Willful Deprivation – willfully denying assistance to an older person who requires medication, medical care, shelter, food, therapeutic device, or other physical assistance, thereby exposing that person to the risk of harm.

Financial Exploitation – the misuse or withholding of an older person's resources to the disadvantage of the elderly person and/or the profit or advantage of another person.

Illinois Law

The Illinois Department on Aging administers the statewide Elder Abuse and Neglect Program (EANP), under the authority of the Elder Abuse and Neglect Act (320ILCS 20/1 et seq.) to respond to reports of alleged mistreatment of any Illinois citizen 60 years or older who lives in the community.

The Elder Abuse and Neglect Program (EANP) is locally coordinated through 41 provider agencies, which are designated by the Regional Administrative Agencies (RAAs) and the Department on Aging. All Elder Abuse Caseworkers are trained and certified by the Department, which promulgates the Program's policies and procedures and oversees the monitoring of services through the RAAs.

Depending on the nature and seriousness of the allegations, a trained caseworker will make a face-to-face contact with the victim within the following time frames: 24 hours for life threatening situations, 72 hours for most neglect and non life threatening physical abuse reports, and seven calendar days for most financial exploitation and emotional abuse reports.

The caseworker has 30 days to do a comprehensive assessment, both to determine if the client has been mistreated and to determine his/her need for services and interventions. If the abuse is substantiated, the caseworker involves the older person in the development of a case plan to alleviate the situation. The caseworker always attempts to utilize the least restrictive alternatives that will allow the older person to remain independent to the degree possible.

Limited Mandatory Reporting. Applies to persons delivering professional services to older persons in the following fields: social services, adult day care, law enforcement, education, medicine, state service to seniors, and social work. The requirements for limited mandatory reporting apply when the reporter believes that the older person is not capable of reporting the abuse himself/herself. The law also encourages any person to report voluntarily for an older person, and provides immunity from liability and professional disciplinary action for anyone making such an elder abuse report in good faith.

Self-Neglect. Effective January 1, 2007 the Elder Abuse and Neglect (EAN) Act was amended to include self-neglect. The amendment established that responding to such cases would be contingent upon sufficient funding. In the absence of sufficient funding for statewide implementation, elder abuse provider agencies began receiving reports of self-neglect and referred the reports on to the appropriate agency(s) for follow-up. The EANP received 1,144 self-neglect reports in Fiscal Year 2010.

Self-neglect means a condition that is the result of an eligible adult's inability, due to physical or mental impairments, or both, or a diminished capacity, to perform essential self-care tasks that substantially threaten his or her own health, including: providing essential food, clothing, shelter, and health care; and obtaining goods and services necessary to maintain physical health, mental health, emotional well-being, and general safety.

24 Hour Response. In the case of a report of alleged or suspected abuse or neglect that places an eligible adult at risk of injury or death, a provider agency shall be available to respond 24 hours per day seven days per week.