



On behalf of The Global Ageing Network, LeadingAge, and the aging services organizations below, representing many faiths, we stand committed to fighting elder abuse and continue our work to support World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on June 15. This commitment underscores LeadingAge's *mission* to be the trusted voice for aging and *vision* of an America freed from ageism, through our *promise* as the voice of nonprofits to inspire, serve and advocate.

Elder abuse is a form of abuse that does not receive enough recognition or response and is underestimated and ignored by many countries. However, it is estimated that world-wide, 1 in 6 people over the age of 60 have experienced a form of abuse and only 1 in 24 cases go reported.

Older people experience many kinds of abuse – financial/material exploitation, physical abuse, and emotional abuse. Elder abuse can result in mental and neurological problems, poor general health, and cognitive impairment. Abuse deprives elders of their dignity and autonomy and can lead to more negative outcomes like poverty and hunger.

Our members collectively are at the forefront of developing and implementing measures to prevent abuse and protect the rights of older persons. Members have partnered with the Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly (CARIE) to distribute an abuse prevention program to staff of nursing homes, worked for passage of legislation opposing elder abuse, developed the first shelters for abused elders, and developed and supported trauma-informed care for Holocaust survivors and all older persons both in nursing homes and the broader community.

Through education, advocacy and the continued support for community involvement through the elder abuse shelter movement, LeadingAge and The Global Ageing Network and our interfaith partners will raise awareness of the issue, ways to identify and combat abuse and provide support for older persons.

Join us and colleagues around the world in our fight to end elder abuse. We urge everyone to raise awareness and engage your community around the topic of elder abuse and neglect.

*LeadingAge*

*The Global Ageing Network*

*Association of Jewish Aging Services*

*The Catholic Health Association of the United States*

*The Jewish Federations of North America*

*United Methodist Association of Health & Welfare Ministries*

*AGEING Concern Foundation*