



**If You Have Concerns or Suspect Abuse please call
Ulster County
Adult Protective Services
(845) 334-5125**

To Prevent Financial Exploitation:

- Be suspicious of letters or postcards claiming to be “official” or “urgent,” especially if the envelope is sent in bulk rate
- Don’t be deceived by checks that appear in the mail. If you have questions about unsolicited checks, call the Ulster County Consumer Advocate at 340-3260
- Do not respond to lotteries and sweepstakes
- You never have to pay money to receive a prize
- Do not carry your Social Security card on your person. Do not carry your Medicare card unless you are going to a medical appointment
- Only carry the credit card(s) that you intend to use, leave your checkbook at home unless you expect to use it, do not carry excessive cash
- Shred personal and financial records
- Check your credit reports once a year

**Office of the Ulster County Executive
845-340-3800**

**Ulster County Dept. of Social Services
845-334-5400**

**Ulster County Office for the Aging
Ulster County Older Adults Empowerment Council
845-340-3456**

**Adult Services/Adult Protective Services
845-334-5125**

**Ulster County Crime Victims Assistance Program
845-340-3443 & 845-340-3442 (hotline)**

**Ulster County Depts. of Health & Mental Health
845-340-3150**

**Ulster County District Attorney’s Office
845-340-3280**

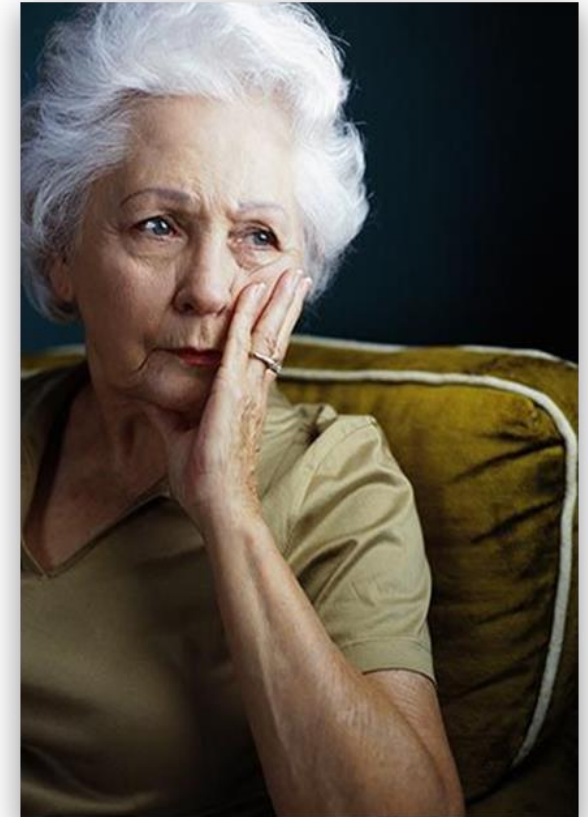
**Legal Services of the Hudson Valley
845-331-9373**

**Alzheimer’s Association - Hudson Valley Chapter
800-272-3900**

**Jewish Family Services of Ulster County
845-338-2980**

**The Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center
845-331-5300**

Senior Safety Measures



**Protect Yourself
From Financial,
Emotional, And
Physical
Exploitations**

Elder abuse is any form of mistreatment that results in harm or loss to an older person. All elders are susceptible to exploitation; however, people who are physically and cognitively frail and socially isolated are especially vulnerable. Here is some important information regarding elder abuse.

Types of Elder Abuse:

- **Financial abuse**; misuse of funds or credit cards, forgery and schemes to defraud
- **Self-Neglect**; not taking care of one's basic needs- home is in disarray, lack of personal hygiene
- **Neglect**; failure to provide a dependent senior with clothing, food, medicine, or shelter
- **Emotional**; which may involve humiliation or threats
- **Physical**; abuse that causes bodily injury, pain, or impairment

Signs and Symptoms of Elder Abuse:

- Social and physical isolation
- Change in personality or behavior
- Agitation, confusion, disorientation
- Emotional Distress, such as crying or emotional withdrawal
- Self-destructive behavior
- Unexplained physical injury
- Sudden lack of funds, loss of financial independence or control
- Home in disarray; lacking basic necessities
- Frequent arguments or tension between caregiver and elder

Be Aware If...

- The elder is reluctant to respond to normal social discourse
- An older adult appears fearful of his or her caregiver or other person, for instance a handyman
- The elder begins to complain about lack of resources, money, food, heat, etc.
- A caregiver seeks to prevent an elder from interacting privately with you
- The elder and caregiver give conflicting accounts of an incident
- The caregiver is indifferent or angry towards the elder, or refuses to provide necessary assistance

Potential Abusers:

- Are seldom strangers to the victim, maybe a "new" friend who has gained the elder's trust
- Are often family members
- May have addictions to alcohol, drugs, or gambling, and/or have other forms of mental illness
- May have a previous history of abuse
- Are often financially stressed and socially isolated

What To Do:

If you are concerned about something you have noticed, tell someone

If you see an elder in imminent jeopardy or danger, call 911, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Otherwise, Monday through Friday between 9 am and 5 pm, call:

Adult Protective Services: (845) 334-5125

Ulster County's Office for the Aging:
(845) 340-3456

Hands On Hudson Valley:
(845) 229-4680 (for those residing in Skilled Nursing, Assisted Living and family style homes)

Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center: (845) 331-5300

