

Elder abuse – You are not alone, help is available.



Sadly, elder abuse happens and it can be easily hidden until somebody speaks out. Data from Queensland's Elder Abuse Prevention Unit suggests elder abuse is often carried out by someone known or trusted by the victim. This is why it's vital, that we as a community, value and protect the rights of ageing Queenslanders.

Elder abuse can take many forms including financial, physical, psychological, sexual and neglect. Queensland Public Trustee works with government agencies and organisations to help raise awareness of elder abuse and advocate on behalf of those who have fallen victim to the misappropriation of funds.

Know the signs of elder abuse

Is an older person you know:

- showing unusual bruises or other injuries that they struggle to explain?
- afraid of someone close to them?
- anxious or nervous but unable to articulate why?
- reluctant to talk or make eye contact?
- deferring to another person to speak on their behalf?
- struggling to pay for bills, medication or necessities when they didn't previously?
- showing significant changes in their appearance in ways that make you worry for their health and wellbeing?

What to do if you or someone you know is experiencing elder abuse?

If you suspect that an older person you know is being abused, or if you are experiencing elder abuse yourself, call the Elder Abuse Helpline. Anyone can make the call and you can remain anonymous if you prefer.

The Elder Abuse Helpline provides confidential information, support and referrals to appropriate services including legal, community support and advocacy services.

The helpline is available from 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday to assist vulnerable older Queenslanders.

Phone the Elder Abuse Helpline on 1300 651 192

For more information about elder abuse and support services, visit www.qld.gov.au/knowthesigns

If you witness violence, or are worried that an older person is at immediate risk, call the police on triple zero **(000)**.

Elder abuse support services

Elder Abuse Prevention Unit

Elder Abuse Hotline:
1300 651 192
(Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)
eapu.com.au

Seniors Enquiry Line

Phone: **1300 135 500**
www.seniorsenquiryline.com.au

Lifeline

24-hour crisis line: **13 11 14**
www.lifeline.org.au

Queensland Aged & Disability Advocacy (Guardianship Advocacy Service)

Phone: **1800 818 338**
www.qada.org.au

The Office of the Public Guardian

Phone: **1300 653 187**
www.publicguardian.qld.gov.au

Office for Seniors

Phone: **13 74 68**
www.qld.gov.au/seniors