If you are experiencing any technical issues with the audio for this session, please let us know in the feedback box.

If you have technical difficulties during the webinar, contact Kaila Hough, who is providing technical support for this webinar. Her email address is khough@ovcttac.org.

If you have questions, type them in the feedback box. We will address as many as possible throughout the webinar.
ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE

The **mission** is to support and coordinate the Department of Justice’s enforcement and programmatic efforts to combat elder abuse, neglect, and financial fraud and scams that target older adults.

The Initiative does so by—

- Promoting justice for older adults.
- Helping older victims and their families.
- Enhancing state and local efforts through training and resources.
- Supporting research to improve elder abuse policy and practice.
The mission of the Elder Justice Initiative is to support and coordinate the Department’s enforcement and programmatic efforts to combat elder abuse, neglect, and financial fraud and scams that target our Nation’s seniors.

**You're fighting elder abuse on the front lines. We've got your back.**

- **Outreach Materials**
  Get involved, get safe community presentations, pamphlets, and materials on all types of elder abuse.

- **Prosecutor Video Series**
  Training videos geared toward successful prosecution of elder abuse cases.

- **Elder Abuse Research**
  References to articles, books, and government reports on all types of elder abuse and financial exploitation topics.

- **MDT Guide & Toolkit**
  Start or grow a local elder abuse case review multidisciplinary team with this research- and resource-rich toolkit.

- **Financial Exploitation & Reporting**
  Learn about financial scams and find the right reporting agency.

- **Webinars**
  Webinars targeted to elder abuse professionals and those interested in elder abuse topics.

- **Elder Abuse Statutes**
  State statutes relevant to elder abuse cases.
Gabriella Grant
Director, California Center of Excellence for Trauma Informed Care
TRAUMA-INFORMED SERVICES: AN INTRODUCTION TO ACES AND ELDER ABUSE

Gabriella Grant, Director
California Center of Excellence for Trauma Informed Care, Santa Cruz, California

www.trauma-informed-california.org
Contrary to previous assertions of resiliency in older adult populations, there is reason to suspect greater vulnerability to emotional difficulties following exposure to traumatic stressors in this population.

Grey & Acierno, 2002
Realizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery
Recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system
Responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices
Seeks to actively resist re-traumatization
Defining Trauma

Individual trauma results from an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or threatening and that has lasting adverse effects on the individual's functioning and physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.

SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration)

http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/clinical-practice/trauma
“Time doesn’t heal, time conceals.”

Dr. Vincent Felitti
ACE Principal Investigator
ACES – BEFORE 18

- Recurrent physical abuse
- Recurrent emotional abuse
- Contact sexual abuse
- An alcohol and/or drug abuser in the household
- An incarcerated household member
- Someone who is chronically depressed, mentally ill, institutionalized, or suicidal
- Mother is treated violently
- One or no parents
- Emotional or physical neglect
ACE Score and Drug Abuse

Ever addicted to drugs

Percent With Health Problem (%)

ACE Score
- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- >=5

Ever had a drug problem

Ever injected drugs

Elder Justice Initiative

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CDC
SUICIDE - 2013

• According to the CDC, an estimated 10,189 older Americans (ages 60 and up) died from suicide in 2013.

• In 2013—
  - 45 to 64 years old highest suicide rate (19.1%)
  - 85 years and older second highest rate (18.6%)

• Older, white male suicides are particularly high (32.74 suicides per 100,000 people).

• Oldest group of white males (ages 85+) is more than four times higher than the nation’s overall rate of suicide.

SAMHSA, 2012
ACES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS

Childhood Experiences Underlie Suicide Attempts

ACE Score

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4+

Department of Justice
Elder Justice Initiative
Trauma poses a threat to the successful aging process by interfering with interpersonal relations and productive activity.

Cisler et al, 2010; Rowe & Kahn, 1997
ACES AND WORKER PERFORMANCE

ACE Score and Indicators of Impaired Worker Performance

Prevalence of Impaired Performance (%)

ACE Score
- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 or more

Absenteism (≥ 2 days/month)

Serious Financial Problems

Serious Job Problems

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ElderJustice INITIATIVE
PAST VICTIMIZATION PREDICTS FUTURE VICTIMIZATION

• A prior traumatic event associated with increased risk of elder mistreatment, a finding also observed in the literature on younger adult mistreatment.

  (National Elder Maltreatment Study, 2009)

• Childhood abuse found to be a notable risk factor in studies of older adults who were abused or neglected by a caregiver or partner.

  (Allers et al., 1992; Fulmer et al., 2005; Hines & Malley-Morrison, 2005)
ACE Score and the Risk of Being a Victim of Domestic Violence

Risk of Victimization (%)

ACE Score

Well-being
Underlie Being a Victim of Rape

- Attributable to ACEs
  - People with an ACE score of 4 or more are over 8 times more likely to be a victim of rape than people with an ACE score of 0.
“Adult diseases can best be understood as the manifestations of distant childhood events.”

Dr. Vincent Felitti,
ACE Principle Investigator
August 2010
ACES AND MORTALITY

Effect of ACEs on Mortality

Age Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACE Score</th>
<th>19-34</th>
<th>35-49</th>
<th>50-64</th>
<th>&gt;=65</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent in Age Group
When screening for [elder] neglect, screen for childhood trauma and poor social support.

Fulmer et al., 2005
BRIEFEST SCREEN EVER

Do you feel safe speaking to me today?
  ‣ If not, what would help you feel safer?

Do you feel safe at home today?
  ‣ If not, how can we help you feel safer?

Did you feel safe at home as a child?
  ‣ If not, how does that affect you today?

Developed by G. Grant
AVAILABLE INTERVENTIONS

Psychological First Aid for Seniors (Crisis Intervention)
› http://amhd.cbcus.edu/docs/pfanh2ed.pdf

Seeking Safety (PTSD & Substance Abuse) – Used with Seniors
› www.seekingsafety.org Safe Coping Skills Sheet

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for Late-Life Depression
› http://oafc.stanford.edu/projects/cbt.html

IMPACT (Depression)
› http://impact-uw.org

Responding to Violent Crimes Against Persons with Disabilities
› http://www.safeplace.org/page.aspx?pid=358

Preventing Suicide and Promoting Well-Being
› http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA10-4515
BALANCE EMPATHY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Empathy

Balance

Accountability
BE A SAFE CONNECTION!

Consistent across all people/clients – unconditional positive regard by balancing empathy and accountability

1. Use an invitational approach – offer, don’t rescue
2. Know and respect laws, rights, boundaries – do no harm
3. Address safety, security, stability of person in front of you
4. Now – stay present focused
5. Provide access to basic needs (water, restroom, food)
6. Offer choices that are simple, clear, and within reach
7. Emphasize coping (action) vs. feelings (processing)
8. Build self-regulation skills: grounding, anchoring, centering
9. Repeat information and give multiple formats (visual)
10. Ask for agreement (not understanding)

Grant, 2016
ELDERS AND ABUSE ESSENTIALS

Suicide Prevention Resource Center

› http://www.sprc.org/populations/older-adults

National Council on Aging – Older Americans and Behavioral Health

› https://www.ncoa.org/center-for-healthy-aging/behavioral-health/older-americans-behavioral-health-series/

California Adult Protective Services Directory

› http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/County-APS-Offices

National Adult Protective Services Association

› http://www.napsa-now.org

Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect

› http://www.centeronelderabuse.org
THANK YOU!

Gabriella Grant, Director

gabbygrant@me.com

CA Center of Excellence for Trauma Informed Care

www.trauma-informed-california.org

916-267-4367
Questions

Elder Justice Initiative
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www.elderjustice.gov