



Protecting American's Seniors: The Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions Program

BACKGROUND

Elder abuse is a substantial public health problem. It includes physical abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, sexual abuse, and emotional or psychological abuse. This abuse results in a wide range of negative health impacts, including higher rates of morbidity and mortality, an increased risk of injury, and a range of health problems and chronic conditions.

Currently, most communities do not have comprehensive elder abuse prevention efforts that engage a broad set of individuals and institutions that can play a role in combating abuse, such as health professionals, law enforcement and legal services agencies, social workers, clergy, and community organizations. Promising multidisciplinary models and certain strategies from other family violence prevention programs exist that could qualify for pilot testing elder abuse interventions.

THE ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION INTERVENTIONS PROGRAM

The Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions Program is providing funding to States and Tribes to test interventions designed to prevent elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. This initiative helps to implement the Elder Justice Act, which was enacted as part of the Affordable Care Act. These prevention projects will draw on existing research and promising practices, while building a stronger evidence base and improving data collection systems that are needed to more effectively address this troubling issue.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) provided funding to the States and Tribes below.

These grants will span three years.

STATE ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION GRANTS

Cooperative agreements totaling \$5 million were awarded to the following States:

<u>STATE</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Alaska	Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
California	University of California, Irvine
New York	New York State Office for the Aging
Texas	Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
Texas	University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston



Anticipated outcomes include:

- Testing of an enhanced multi-disciplinary team (E-MDT) with a unique feature of a forensic accountant, to investigate and intervene in cases of financial exploitation;
- Piloting a tailored health promotion intervention to improve medication adherence among frail older adults who Self-neglect;
- Partnering with a primary care physician group to test the EASI screening tool;
- Testing the translation of the Critical Time Intervention (CTI) case management program for elder abuse prevention.
- Measuring whether the purported risk factors of elder abuse and neglect in persons with dementia are reduced by service components drawn from the Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health (REACH) program;

NATIVE AMERICAN ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION GRANTS

Cooperative agreements totaling \$700,000 were awarded to the following TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Tohono O'odham Nation
Poarch Band of Creek Indians
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

Anticipated outcomes include:

- Development of a Multi-Disciplinary Team to address elder abuse in Indian Country;
- Development and testing of culturally appropriate evidence based screening tools; and
- Culturally appropriate train-the-trainer modules to improve skills on addressing and intervening with elder abuse issues.

For more information about ACL

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