

National Center on Elder Abuse

# NCEA E-NEWS

## NCEA Launches Public Awareness Campaign

- **NCEA launches public awareness campaign through CANE-UD**
- **NCEA public outreach materials inventory underway**
- **Efforts begin to enlist student participation**

Through the *Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly at the University of Delaware* (CANE-UD), the NCEA has taken initial steps in launching a strategic national awareness campaign designed to focus attention on the problems of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, and ageism.

*“Elder abuse is no less an important social issue than child abuse, domestic violence, or substance abuse. Still, elder mistreatment has not yet gained the same level of public engagement as these other issues. Our intention is to move elder abuse and neglect onto the national stage, by galvanizing public attention,”* said Dr. Karen Stein, Project Supervisor of NCEA activities at the University of Delaware.

The multi-platform campaign will ultimately involve national and local spokespersons, amplify the voices of seniors, and engage youths in broadcasting the messages that mistreatment is never acceptable, and that all individuals throughout the lifespan are entitled to respect, dignity, and protection from harm.

Where to begin to address the many challenges that accompany such a task?

An essential first step is to identify existing resources. CANE-UD is inventorying existing outreach materials created by regional and state entities in the aging services and related fields. Many members of the NCEA listserv have generously supported the initiative by sharing brochures, graphics, and other written and multi-media materials designed and used in their local public outreach efforts. It will be important to determine what strategies and modes of delivery have been effective and well-received. But perhaps the greatest challenge is determining the most engaging way to frame messages so that they will ultimately lead to changes in public perceptions and behaviors.

While the inventorying and analysis of existing tools will continue, CANE-UD will look to other models of successful public awareness campaigns (such as those used to focus attention on domestic violence and child abuse) to inform the blueprint for the elder abuse campaign. *(continued on page 2.)*

### Public Awareness Campaign ...1

**Kentucky Fraud Fighters...2**

**CEASE...4**

**Federal Legislation...5**

**MDT Mini-Grant Project Update...6**

**State Updates...8**

**New Research...9**

**Calendar...10**

Thank you to those who have contributed to the NCEA inventory of public awareness resources .

To date, we have received brochures, DVDs, photographs, and information on public service announcements, existing campaigns, and internet resources from the following regions:

Arizona, California, Colorado, Canada, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington.

If you would like to share public outreach materials, please send them to:

NCEA/CANE  
Center for Community Research and Services (CCRS)  
University of Delaware  
297 Graham Hall  
Newark, DE 19716  
Email : [NCEA-CANE@UDEL.EDU](mailto:NCEA-CANE@UDEL.EDU).

***“I am very excited about a national public awareness campaign about elder abuse. While there is information out there about domestic violence and child abuse, there is nothing nationally about elder abuse. But without local community involvement and infrastructure, a national campaign won’t sustain itself.” Kimberly Baker, Policy Analyst/ Elder Abuse Specialist, Kentucky***

## Public Awareness Campaign (continued from page 1)

### Youth Movement

As mentioned in the last e-news, one vehicle to enlist students in elder abuse awareness and prevention efforts is an arts competition. The competition is intended to foster intergenerational respect and awareness of aging issues.

CANE-UD is currently negotiating with a Delaware public school to

pilot the competition with high school students. The competition is slated for Spring 2008. If all goes as planned, the competition will culminate in an awards presentation in conjunction with *World Elder Abuse Awareness Day* next June. Winning entries may be used in the creation of additional outreach materials.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK? Question of the Month:

**Do you think that an effective public awareness campaign to raise the visibility of elder abuse must also address ageism?**

We welcome readers thoughts on this topic. Email your comments to: [NCEA-info@aoa.hhs.gov](mailto:NCEA-info@aoa.hhs.gov). Include the question of the month in the subject line. We will include excerpts in next month’s newsletter, along with a new question to consider. THANKS!

## Eye on Prevention: Kentucky Fraud Fighters

*Kentucky Fraud Fighters is a public outreach and prevention initiative designed by Louisville law enforcement in 2001. It is currently in use in 20 of the state’s 105 counties.*

*We recently spoke with Kimberly Baker of Kentucky’s Cabinet for Health and Family Services about this project and its proposed expansion.*

The following scenario is familiar to frontline responders to elder fraud: *Mrs. Y, a seventy-three year old widow, is weeding her vegetable garden. A pick-up truck with a bed of construction materials pulls up to her house. The driver gets out of the cab and greets her with a cheerful but concerned smile.*

*“I hate to say this, but as I was driving by I couldn’t help noticing that your roof is in a sorry state. Can I ask how old it is?”*

*Mrs. Y knows that roof is over 25 years old, and she had even worried that it needed repair. But her old roofer had long since retired, and it was one of those things that she hadn’t gotten around to yet. She listens as the young man continues to ask questions and talk about the great deal he can offer her. After a few minutes she says, “You’ve made a good case. I’ll be right back!”*

*The shady contractor expects Mrs. Y to return with her checkbook,*

## Kentucky Fraud Fighters (cont. from page 2)

*ready to write a deposit for work that will never be completed, or poorly done. But the story has a happy ending, because Mrs. Y lives in Kenton County, Kentucky. Instead, she comes out to the porch with a copy of the Fraud Fighters form, and asks the man if he would mind completing it so she can verify his business with the county attorney's office.*

The *Fraud Fighter* brochure is a prevention tool. It alerts residents to “red flags” about door to door scam techniques, and requires potential vendors to fill out business information on a mail-in form, preprinted with the local county attorney's office address. Legitimate business owners don't hesitate to complete the form, but scam artists can't back away fast enough, usually saying, “I'll take this with me — I'm late for my next appointment but I'll get back to you.”

According to Ms. Baker, the *Fraud Fighters*' success depends largely on the grassroots efforts of Kentucky's *Local Coordinating Councils on Elder Abuse (LCCEA)*, multidisciplinary teams that work within communities to generate awareness of elder mistreatment and exploitation. Councils typically include representatives from the local county attorney's office, which is vital since these offices are the clearinghouses for background checks. Perhaps even more important, however, is that local elders are more likely to use the tool if it is distributed and endorsed by representatives of their own community, individuals they recognize and trust, such as members of their LCCEA.

Ms. Baker hears regularly from LCCEA members throughout the state that *Fraud Fighters* has a positive impact. Residents regularly share anecdotes about how friends and family members have been approached by shady vendors who turn tail once asked to complete the form. Plans are currently underway to expand the program throughout the state.

Ms. Baker is passionate about the impact that the LCCEAs have had in Kentucky, and believes they, along with other states' coalitions, will play a significant role in the pending national awareness initiative. “I am very excited about a national public awareness campaign about elder abuse. While there is information out there about domestic violence and child abuse, there is nothing nationally about elder abuse. But without local community involvement and infrastructure, a national campaign won't sustain itself.”

*Fraud Fighter* forms are distributed several times throughout the year in senior resource directories, local newspapers, and attached to community newsletters.

***Kimberly Baker is a policy analyst and elder abuse specialist in the Director's Office of the Kentucky Division of Protection and Permanency, Cabinet for Health and Family Services .***

***For more information on Fraud Fighters, including recommendations on how to implement the project in your community, contact Kimberly at:  
[Kimberly.Baker@ky.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Baker@ky.gov) .***

## **New Coalition to Combat Elder Financial Abuse: CEASE**

CEASE, the *Coalition to End Elder Financial Abuse*, was recently formed by three organizations: *California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR)*, the *National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA)*, and the *Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER)*.

CANHR has a long history of addressing elder abuse, and is the sponsor of groundbreaking legislation on consumer protections and elder abuse. In 2005, CANHR received the California Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award for Elder Abuse Prevention by a Community-Based Organization. NAPSA is the national professional organization for state and local adult protective service agencies and the NCEA grantee responsible for addressing training needs among responders to elder abuse. WISER is a nationally recognized leader in developing and disseminating accessible information on a wide range of financial issues for women (and men). Bill Benson, NAPSA's National Policy Advisor and a partner in *Health Benefits ABC's*, a consulting firm, brought the three organizations together and will continue to be an integral part of the new coalition.

CEASE submitted testimony at the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging hearing on September, 5, 2007, ***"Advising Seniors About Their Money: Who Is Qualified - and Who Is Not?"*** Hearing witnesses called upon Congress to take immediate steps to curb increasingly common practices to trick seniors into purchasing annuities and other financial products that bleed them of precious retirement dollars and may even lead to the loss of their homes.

CEASE's goal is to develop nationally applicable educational and advocacy initiatives to prevent the increasingly rampant financial exploitation of seniors in many different forms.

***Submitted by Kathleen Quinn, Executive Director of NAPSA***

***Note: Testimony on a related topic was heard before the same committee on October 24, 2007: Hidden: 401(k) Fees: How Disclosure Can Increase Retirement Security.***

## **n4a 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference to Include Elder Rights Track**

*"Elder Rights, Keeping Older Adults Safe and Secure, Elder Abuse Protection"* is one of the seven workshop tracks being offered at the 2008 National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) Conference and Trade Show. This marks the first time the conference includes a workshop track designated specifically to highlight the topic, which the brochure states will "...focus on innovative elder abuse/neglect, ombudsman programs, care monitoring, emergency response systems, financial assistance, disaster preparedness, crime prevention and legal aid/advocating for older adults." The conference is being held in Nashville, Tennessee, July 20-23, 2008. To download the call for sessions brochure, visit: [www.n4a.org](http://www.n4a.org).

***NOTE: The submission deadline for proposals is Wednesday, November 14, 2007.***

## Federal Legislative Update

*A monthly look at proposed federal legislation that may impact older individuals*

The **Elder Justice Act** (S. 1070/H.R. 1783) continues to gain support in both the House and the Senate. Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Barack Obama (D-IL) recently became co-sponsors, bringing the total to 18. In the House, the following representatives have endorsed the legislation for a total of 84 co-sponsors: Tammy Baldwin (D, WI-2), Peter DeFazio (D, OR-4), Ruben Hinojosa (D, TX-15), Doris Matsui (D, CA-5), Rick Boucher (D, VA-9), Mark Steven Kirk (R, IL-10), William J. Jefferson, (D, LA-2), Frank LoBiondo (R, NJ-2), and Zoe Lofgren (D, CA-16).

**S. 1070** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:s1070is.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:s1070is.txt.pdf)

**H.R. 1783** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h1783ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h1783ih.txt.pdf)

The **Safety of Seniors Act of 2007 (S. 845)**, introduced by Senator Michael Enzi (R-WY) in March, would allow "...the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls...." The Senate passed the bill in early August and it has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

**S. 845** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:s845rfh.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:s845rfh.txt.pdf)

**Stop Senior Suicide Act (S. 1854)**, legislation intended to improve prevention of elder suicide, was introduced by Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) in July. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Christopher Dodd (D-CT) are co-sponsors. Among other provisions, the bill calls for the "establishment of a federal interagency geriatric mental health planning council...."

**S. 1854** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:s1854is.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:s1854is.txt.pdf)

In June, the **Patient Safety and Abuse Prevention Act of 2007 (S. 1577/H.R. 3078)** was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Sponsored by Senator Herb Kohl (D-WI), it proposes a "a nationwide expansion of a pilot program for national and state background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities or providers...." Currently, there are 13 co-sponsors: Pete Domenici (R-NM), Claire McCaskill (D-MO), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Carl Levin (D-MI), Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY), Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Susan M. Collins (R-ME), Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-PA), Norm Coleman (R-MN), Thad Cochran (R-MS), and Evan Bayh (D-IN). The bill was subsequently sponsored by Representative Tim Mahoney (D, FL-16). In August, it was most recently referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. Nancy Boyda (D, KS-2), Rahm Emanuel (D, IL-5), and Ron Klein (D, FL-22) have also endorsed the bill. *(continued on page 7)*

## **Mini-Grant Announcement Expected Soon for NCEA Multidisciplinary Elder Abuse Network Development**

The National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA) is the NCEA grantee charged with the development and support of multidisciplinary elder abuse networks. According to project director Pamela Teaster, a request for proposals outlining project criteria and application format will be disseminated in early December 2007 through major elder abuse and aging services networks. Up to 10 mini-grants will be awarded, totaling \$100,000, to support communities in developing local, multidisciplinary elder abuse detection, intervention, and/or prevention networks. In February 2008, the awardees will be selected by a project steering committee comprised of NCPEA board members. As part of the mini-grants, NCPEA will provide new awardees with specialized technical assistance in setting-up and sustaining their networks through on-site trainings, teleconferences, and email and web-based technology. Mary Lynn Kasunic is the program coordinator.

Updates on the multidisciplinary project, including the mini-grant announcement and submission information, will be included in future NCEA E-News issues.

***Pamela Teaster, President-Elect of NCPEA, contributed to this article.***

## **National Association of Legal Services Developers (NALSD) Announces New Elder Rights Advocacy Hall of Fame**

At a recent NALSD meeting held during *National Aging and Law Conference*, Bill Graham, legal services developer (LSD) from New York and past chairman of the association, announced the creation of the *Elder Rights Advocacy Hall of Fame*. The *Hall* was created with funds donated in honor of the late Richard Ingham, LSD from Oklahoma and tenacious champion of advocacy and elder rights.

Along with Mr. Ingham, the following advocates were inducted into the Class of 2007: Natalie Thomas (LSD-GA), Eleanor Crosby Lanier (AARP), Deanna Clingan-Fischer (LSD-IA, and recent recipient of the National Aging and Law Award), and Penelope Hommel and James Bergman (The Center for Social Gerontology/TCSG).

According to Mr. Graham, NALSD will soon call for nominations for the 2008 Class of Inductees. Details will be forthcoming, but NALSD is not restricting nominations to legal service developers, and plans to honor both lifetime achievements as well as efforts surrounding a single or series of events. It is anticipated that the *Hall* will soon have a virtual home on the world wide web. For more information about the *Hall* or the Richard Ingham Fund, email: [bill.graham@ofa.state.ny.us](mailto:bill.graham@ofa.state.ny.us) or telephone: 518-474-0609.

**Federal Legislation (cont. from page 5)**

**Patient Safety and Abuse Prevention Act of 2007 (cont.)**

**S. 1577** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:s1577is.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:s1577is.txt.pdf)

**H.R.3078** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h3078ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h3078ih.txt.pdf)

The **Community Choice Act (S. 799/ H.R. 1621)** would amend Title XIX of the Social Security Act "...to provide services in the most integrated setting appropriate to the individual's needs, and to provide equal access to community-based attendant services and supports in order to assist individuals in achieving equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency...." Initially sponsored by Senator Tom Harkin (IA) in March, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions held hearings on July 10, 2007. To date, there are 19 senate co-sponsors, most recently Patty Murray (D-WA), Jon Tester (D-MT), and John Kerry (D-MA). Fourteen representatives have co-sponsored the bill during the past two months, raising the total to 40: Allyson Schwartz (D, PA-13), Chris Van Hollen (D, MD-8), Stephanie Sandlin Herseth (D, SD), Loretta Sanchez (D, CA-47), Jerry Moran (R, KS-1), Maurice Hinchey (D, NY-22), Ruben Hinojosa (D, TX-15), Alcee L. Hastings (D, FL-23), Nathan Deal (R, GA-9), Carolyn McCarthy (D, NY-4), Jerrold Nadler (D, NY-8), Robert A. Brady (D, PA-1), Charles B. Rangel (D, NY-15), and James R. Langevin (D, RI-2).

**S. 799** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:s799is.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:s799is.txt.pdf)

**H.R. 3078** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h1621ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h1621ih.txt.pdf)

The **Elder Abuse Prevention Act (H.R. 2105)**, introduced by Representative Ben Chandler (D, KY-6) in May 2007, proposes "...no parole for sexual offenses committed against the elderly or for sexually violent predators...." The bill, co-sponsored by Representative Gene Green (D,TX-29) was referred to the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security on June 4, 2007.

**H. R. 2105** >> [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h2105ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h2105ih.txt.pdf)

**Healthy IDEAS Program Recently Featured in NCEA Webcast**

Research indicates that untreated depression among elders may contribute to self-neglect and vulnerability to mistreatment. Recently, the *National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA*, former NCEA grantee) hosted a webcast featuring an evidence-based promising practice: *Healthy IDEAS (Identifying Depression, Empowering Activities for Seniors)*. Presenters included Nancy L. Wilson, Team Leader, Baylor College of Medicine and Esther Steinberg, Project Coordinator, Care for Elders, Sheltering Arms Senior Services . For more information or to access the archived webcast, visit: [http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEARoot/Main\\_Site/Library/Events\\_Webcast/Featured\\_Event.aspx](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEARoot/Main_Site/Library/Events_Webcast/Featured_Event.aspx) .

## State News — Initiatives, Programs, and Legislation

### **MAINE Receives Funding for Training Law Enforcement, Prosecutors**

Maine recently received a \$450,000 grant from the *U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence against Women*, to launch the *Elder Justice Training Program*. The statewide program will focus on training law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and others to identify elder mistreatment. The *Office of the Attorney General* in Maine estimates that there are 14,000 cases of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation throughout the state annually.

**Do you want to share news about your state's activities?**

**Contact the NCEA at:**

[ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov](mailto:ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov)

### **CONNECTICUT Elder Shelter Services Planned**

Birmingham Group Health Services, Inc.'s *Umbrella* program of Connecticut, which provides assistance to victims of domestic violence, recently received funding from the *Hewitt Foundation* to design and implement specialized services for older individuals. Susan DeLeon, the executive director of *Umbrella*, recently described the effort as establishing "a virtual elder shelter" by pooling resources from local assisted living facilities offering bed space. The \$100,000 grant will allow Ms. DeLeon to hire a project planner in addition to securing beds. She hopes to begin offering shelter to elders in January, with the planning stages of the project completed by summer 2008. In addition to offering shelter services, the project will emphasize public outreach and

education for seniors regarding the cycle of violence and elder abuse prevention, and promote awareness of community resources. It is hoped that the project will be expanded in the future.

### **Mandatory Banking Legislation in Effect in NEVADA**

On October 1st, banks, credit unions, thrift companies, and related organizations in Nevada became mandatory reporters of suspected elder and vulnerable adult financial exploitation (AB 87). The legislation also calls for financial institutions to identify a "designated reporter" to whom all other employees report suspected abuse. It further requires financial institution employees to obtain training in the recognition of elder abuse within six months of the date of hire.

### **NEW JERSEY Governor Signs Legislation to Require Residential Representation in Community Care Facilities**

According to Governor John Corzine, Bill S425/A3989 guarantees "...that residents of continuing care communities have a seat at the table, giving them a strong voice in the decision-making processes in the facilities in which they live." The bill requires that at least one resident sit on the governing board of each of the state's 27 continuing care retirement communities. The law also requires a governing board member to meet with facility residents quarterly.

**Visit the CANE Bibliography Series for reference lists on topics such as nursing home abuse:**

[www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEAroot/Main Site/Library/CANE/CANE.aspx](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEAroot/Main Site/Library/CANE/CANE.aspx)

## Elder Abuse Research

*The Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly (CANE) at the University of Delaware maintains an annotated catalog of peer-reviewed literature on elder mistreatment and related issues. The following are highlights of recently identified articles. To search the CANE database for additional references, visit: [www.cane.udel.edu](http://www.cane.udel.edu).*

**“Loneliness in Older Chinese Adults: A Risk Factor for Elder Mistreatment;” Dong, X., Simon, M., Gorbien, M., Percak, J. & Golden, R.; Journal of the American Geriatrics Society/JAGS; Vol. 55 (11), 1831-1835; November 2007.**

In this cross-sectional study, 412 patients of a general medical clinic aged 60 and over were surveyed about experiences of elder mistreatment and assessed for loneliness. Elder mistreatment was identified in 35.2 percent of the study population. Of those mistreated, caregiver neglect was most common, accounting for nearly half of the cases, followed by financial exploitation (39.6 percent), emotional abuse (32.4 percent), physical abuse (17 percent), and sexual abuse (3.4 percent). Loneliness was positively associated with self-reported elder mistreatment, however, the authors suggest that it is unclear if the loneliness is a cause or result of abuse. It should be noted that over one-third of those not reporting abuse also experienced feelings of loneliness.

**“A Comparative Study of Laws, Rules, Codes and Other Influences on Nursing Homes’ Disaster Preparedness in the Gulf Coast States;” Brown, L., Hyer, K. & Polivka-West, L.; Behavioral Sciences and the Law; Vol. 25 (5), 655-675, September/October 2007.**

In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, much attention has been paid to the disaster preparedness plans of nursing homes and how they may have contributed to the hurricane-related deaths of 70 nursing home residents in 2005. This article examines state laws and regulations in eight hurricane-prone Gulf Coast states, identifies gaps and limitations in current disaster preparedness plans and suggests improvements to future disaster plans. Current laws and regulations are examined in the context of the recent findings of the Office of the Inspector General, which identified 25 critical elements of disaster planning.

**“Design of an Assessment of Caregivers’ Impulsive Feelings to Commit Elder Abuse;” Lee, M. & Kolomer, S.; Research on Social Work Practice; Vol. 17 (6), 729-735; November 2007.**

The aim of this study was to develop an Impulsive Feelings to Commit Elder Abuse (IFCEA) scale that measures the impulsive feelings of primary caregivers to commit elder abuse. To develop this scale, the researchers modified an existing scale, the Potentially Harmful Behavior checklist, to measure the potential risk of caregiver abuse. The IFCEA scale was then administered to a sample of 387 primary caregivers in South Korea, to measure the reliability and validity of the scale. Results showed that the scale was both reliable and valid as a measurement of caregivers’ impulse to commit elder abuse. Further research is required to determine whether the results of this study are applicable to broader populations.

## New Pilot Training Program for Prosecution of Elder Abuse

The *National District Attorneys Association* and the *Office on Violence Against Women* have announced a new, free training opportunity on the prosecution of elder abuse and neglect cases. This is a pilot program and trainees are expected to actively participate and provide feedback on the curriculum. Registration priority is given to applicants whose offices receive *Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protective Orders*, *Transitional Housing Assistance Grants*, and *STOP Violence Against Women Grants* from the *Office on Violence Against Women*.

Course Date: December 11-13, 2007

Application deadline: November 9, 2007, at 5 pm E.S.T.

Location: Mesa, AZ

Contact: *National College of District Attorneys/National District Attorneys Association* by email: [Brenda.Kuhn@NDAA.org](mailto:Brenda.Kuhn@NDAA.org) or telephone: 803-705-5096.

## National Center on Elder Abuse Website Has a New Home!

On October 1, 2007, the *National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA)* moved to a new web home: [www.ncea.aoa.gov](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov) .

First established by the *Administration on Aging (AoA)* in 1988, the NCEA has served as a national resource center dedicated to the prevention of elder mistreatment. In response to the *Older Americans Act* amendments of 2006, AoA repositioned the NCEA to assist AoA in providing leadership to the field of elder justice and gave the NCEA a new website home at [www.ncea.aoa.gov](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov) .

Among the many resources on the redesigned website, users will find information about:

- How to find help if you are worried about a senior;
- Definitions, signs, and risks of elder mistreatment; and
- Resources for caregivers.

We would like to thank all the organizations who have served over the years as a grantee in the NCEA for their contributions to, and development and management of, the content and materials of the NCEA and its website. Visitors to [www.ncea.aoa.gov](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov) will recognize its content from prior versions of the NCEA website, as the last set of NCEA grantees, NASUA, ABA Commission on Law and Aging, NAPSA, NCPEA, and University of Delaware, worked closely with AoA to transition and organize the website content so that professionals, advocates, and families would not lose the important information and resources they have come to rely on.

To learn more about elder mistreatment and the NCEA, its mission, and activities to combat and eradicate elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, please visit: [www.ncea.aoa.gov](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov) .  
**Submitted by Stephanie Whittier, NCEA Director/AoA Project Officer**

## NCEA ElderAbuse Listserve

On October 1, 2007, the ElderAbuse listserv, a project of the NCEA, was migrated to a new server at the National Institutes of Health (<https://list.nih.gov>). The *Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect at the University of Delaware*, a partner in the NCEA, now monitors and manages the listserv.

The ElderAbuse listserv provides a free, 24-hour, 7-day-a-week online link to others who are working on elder abuse issues. The goal of the ElderAbuse listserv is to provide a forum for professionals working in the area of elder mistreatment to share and solicit information to improve prevention and response efforts for elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, and self-neglect. Subscription to the ElderAbuse listserv is restricted to professionals working in elder mistreatment in order to facilitate a secure environment for free and open discourse.

To request a subscription to the NCEA ElderAbuse listserv, complete the online form at: [http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEAroot/Main\\_Site/Site\\_Utilities/Feedback.aspx](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEAroot/Main_Site/Site_Utilities/Feedback.aspx). If you are unable to access the form, you can email the list manager, Sharon Merriman-Nai, at [ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov](mailto:ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov). Please provide your name, profession, organization/business address and telephone number, and a brief statement of your experience or interest in the field.

We would like to thank Lori Stiegel with the *ABA Commission on Law and Aging*, who, as a former sub-grantee in the *National Center on Elder Abuse*, spent much time and many years cultivating the list into this effective communication and networking tool. We hope the ElderAbuse listserv is a valuable resource in your work and professional development.

Please let us know how we may continue to enhance and improve this service. Visit the NCEA website for more details and information about the listserv at: [http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEAroot/Main\\_Site/Resources/NCEA\\_Listserv/Listserv\\_Home.aspx](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/NCEAroot/Main_Site/Resources/NCEA_Listserv/Listserv_Home.aspx).

***Submitted by Stephanie Whittier, NCEA Director/AoA Project Officer***

## The Institute for Geriatric Social Work Announces New Titles

The *Institute for Geriatric Social Work of Boston University (IGSW)* recently introduced three new training titles in their online continuing education series:

- Creative Treatment Approaches with Older Adults (\$45, 3 CEUs)
- Funerals and Memorial Practices (\$45, 3 CEUs)
- Health & Income Security (\$45, 3 CEUs)

For more details on these and other IGSW programs, visit:

<http://www.bu.edu/igsw/announcements/index.html>.

Telephone: 617-358-2626

Email: [info@igsw.org](mailto:info@igsw.org)

## **NCEA/CANE**

Center for Community Research and Service/CCRS at the University of Delaware  
297 Graham Hall  
Newark, DE 19716

NCEA Website: [www.ncea.aoa.gov](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov)

CANE Website: [www.cane.udel.edu](http://www.cane.udel.edu)

Email: [ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov](mailto:ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov)

Telephone: 302-831-3525

### **NCEA Grantees:**

**National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA)**

**National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA)**

**Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly, University of Delaware (CANE-UD)**

**National Center on Elder Abuse**

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## **Calendar of Events**

**November 15 - 19, 2007**

**60th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America**

**San Francisco, CA**

**For More Information:**

**Website: <http://www.geron.org/>**

**February 28-29, 2008**

**American Psychological Association (APA) Summit on Violence and Abuse in Relationships: Connecting Agendas and Forging New Directions**

**Bethesda, Maryland**

**For More Information:**

**Website: [www.reisman-white.com](http://www.reisman-white.com)**

**Telephone: (512) 845-9059**

**December 9 - 14, 2007**

**National Victim Assistance Academy**

**Conference Center at the Maritime Institute  
Baltimore, MD**

**For More Information:**

**Website: <https://www.ovcttac.org/>**

**Email: [2007nvaa@ovcttac.org](mailto:2007nvaa@ovcttac.org)**

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