

National Center on Elder Abuse
2010 Elder Justice Local Network Development
Mini-Grant Projects ¹
Summary of Project Proposals
(Alphabetical by State)

1. **Central Council Tlingit Haida – Juneau, AK** The Central Council Tlingit Haida foresees this project as an opportunity to develop new ways to provide outreach, advocacy, community education, and training to address the issues of elder abuse among the Alaska Native Elder population in southeast Alaska. The Council expects to develop their currently informal network of partners into a formal coalition, increase community awareness, and strengthen support and advocacy services available to Native Elders. The Council anticipates the following outcomes: an increased number of Native Elders receiving immediate access to services as a result of a quick response referral system; an increased number of Native Elders receiving access to an array of support services and culturally based prevention programs and events; and an increased number of Native Elders receiving access to culturally appropriate specialized services, such as legal and medical services, related to specific elder abuse issues.
2. **Council on Aging of Etowah County – Gadsden, AL** In area, Etowah County is the smallest county in Alabama, but it is second only to Jefferson County, Alabama, in the annual number of adult abuse and neglect reports. The Council sees low public awareness, lack of formal training of professionals on detecting or handling elder abuse cases, and lack of collaboration among individuals and organizations as the primary obstacles to effectively addressing elder abuse issues in Etowah County. The Council proposes the following outcomes: conducting a public awareness campaign, to include summit meetings, distribution of materials, and a webpage dedicated to elder abuse and neglect; and holding two speaking events, one with a regional or national speaker and one made up of individuals within the county or from surrounding counties who have direct and indirect experience handling elder abuse cases.
3. **Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department – Yreka, CA** Siskiyou County is located in inland northern California, adjacent to the Oregon border. Siskiyou is the 5th largest county by area, comprised of 6,347 square miles, but has a population of just 45,900 people. Siskiyou County is a rural area with sparse and limited resources to serve elders. Proposed activities/outcomes revolve around two primary focus areas: 1) developing a multi-disciplinary team that includes, among others, members of the Sheriff's Department and Adult Protective Services to establish policies and procedures among all agencies involved and review elder abuse cases; and 2) pursuing a public awareness campaign, addressing mandated reporters, crime awareness, in-home health provider training, and fraud and scam awareness for elders.
4. **San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging – Pagosa Springs, CO** The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging serves 5 counties in the southwestern corner of Colorado. All of the counties have large rural populations. Proposed activities/outcomes involve not only developing a strong and committed coalition of community partners, but also pursuing activities that would position the coalition to serve as a primary source of information about elder abuse for providers in the region. They will create a website with an on-line catalog of services available and develop strategies to improve communication between community agencies and organizations.
5. **Southern Crescent Area Agency on Aging – Franklin, GA** Southern Crescent Area Agency on Aging serves a 10-county region in western Georgia. A division of Three Rivers Regional Commission, it is considered the "Gateway to Community Resources" and will serve as the lead agency for a new elder abuse prevention coalition. In addition to creating a strong and sustainable coalition during the grant period, they propose conducting two educational seminars, one in the east and one in the west parts of their region, for community partners and court-mandated reporters.
6. **Center for the Study of Aging, Boise State University – Boise, ID** The Center for the Study of Aging made a strong case for the benefits to be gained by developing an elder justice coalition in southwestern Idaho. The Center sees the coalition as providing education and awareness, as well as an informed and unified voice for advocacy in the policy arena at both the local and state levels. The Center proposes launching a coalition website to serve as a communication portal for network members and a resource on elder abuse for the general public. It also plans to identify a minimum of 10 best practices in sustainability that will be incorporated into the coalition's strategic plan.
7. **Allegan County Department of Senior Services – Allegan, MI** Allegan County is a largely rural county in the southern peninsula of Michigan. ACDSS envisions the coalition as creating a "no wrong door" approach within its membership, so that no matter where older adults present themselves, assistance and support is accessible. Proposed activities/outcomes include: development of a web-based, anonymous reporting and referral system for gatekeepers and community members to report suspected elder abuse; development of a PowerPoint presentation and outreach materials to be used and disseminated by coalition members in each of their communities; and development of a county-wide conference with separate educational tracks for gatekeeper professionals and consumers.
8. **HOPE Coalition – Red Wing, MN** HOPE Coalition is an agency that addresses a number of social service issues in Goodhue County, MN. They have a diverse collection of agency and community partners assembled to participate in the new coalition, including representatives from the Prairie Island Indian Community and Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County. In addition to establishing a strong, committed coalition of individuals and organizations, HOPE proposes developing a brochure of local services for older adults related to elder abuse and distributing at least 1,000 copies throughout the county during the grant period.
9. **Triangle J Council of Governments' Area Agency on Aging – Research Triangle Park, NC** Triangle J Council of Governments' AAA plans to focus its coalition development primarily in Wake and Durham Counties, from their 7-county region. Activities to be accomplished during the grant period include development and solidification of a coalition in Wake County, and then taking the beginning steps to develop a coalition in Durham County, building on the template from the Wake County coalition. Anticipated outcomes for Wake County include development of a method of gathering better incident data; implementation of agency cross-training; development of community outreach/education plan, including a website and brochure; and development of a "one-stop" information source (e.g. number to call).
10. **Blue Ridge Legal Services – Harrisonburg, VA** Blue Ridge Legal Services plans to establish an elder justice coalition to serve Augusta County, located in the rural southern Shenandoah Valley. Proposed activities and outcomes include a day-long training for law enforcement and prosecutors, at least three community education trainings, creation and distribution of elder abuse informational materials, and contact with local media about the new coalition and elder abuse issues.

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