



elder
SERVE

Be Empowered.



Objectives

- Who are we?
- What do we do?
- How do we do it?
- Why is it important?

ElderServe

- Nonprofit social service agency serving older adults in Louisville, KY
- Mission: To empower older adults to live independently with dignity
- Integrated services
 - Care management
 - Crime Victim Services
 - Friendly Visitor
 - Senior Center
 - Senior Companion
 - TeleCare
 - Wellness
 - Adult Day*
 - Guardianship*
 - HomeCare*
 - Representative Payee*

*fee-based

Crime Victim Services

- **History:** Began in 1996.
- **Clients:** older adults 60+ in Jefferson County who are victims of crime
- **Purpose:**
 - to support older adults in recovering from victimization;
 - to increase access to the criminal justice system for older crime victims; and
 - to increase awareness of elder abuse as a crime.
- **Staffing:** 15% director, 100% 2 advocates, 35% social worker

Data on the last 5 years

- Served avg 1,067 victims per year
- Average age at time of crime 71
 - 60-79 = 77%
 - 80+ = 19%
 - other/unknown = 4%
- 60% female, 40% male
- 78% Caucasian, 18% African-American, 4% other

Crimes

- Type of Crime

Type of Crime	% of Total
Theft (all types)	31.56%
Burglary	21.47%
Domestic/Family Violence	13.12%
Financial Crimes (all types)	12.96%
Adult Physical Assault	4.45%
Robbery	3.97%
Other	12.47%

- Relationship where perpetrator is known
 - 55.54% family/dating

Type of Relationship	% of Total
Child/Stepchild	32.60%
No Relationship	20.98%
Grandchild	18.59%
Acquaintance	13.46%
Neighbor	3.49%
Other	10.89%

Polyvictimization

- 376 victims
 - (started counting 2015)

Type of Crime	% of Total
Domestic/Family Violence	26.40%
Theft (all types)	26.28%
Burglary	15.29%
Financial Crimes (all types)	11.11%
Adult Physical Assault	5.02%
Robbery	3.94%
Other	11.96%

- Relationship where perpetrator is known
 - 68.25% family/dating

Type of Relationship	% of Total
Child/Stepchild	36.25%
Grandchild	27.50%
No Relationship	12.75%
Acquaintance	10.50%
Neighbor	3.50%
Other	9.5%

Services

- Range of services
 - One contact with support/information
 - Multiple contacts in a brief but intensive period
 - Multiple contacts over a period of months or years
- Transportation
- Advocacy with justice system
- Advocacy with landlords, banks, etc.
- Assistance with protective orders
 - In-home/hospital protective orders
- Locks changed
- Counseling/crisis intervention/safety planning
- Identity restoration
- Emergency supplies, shelter
- Assistance accessing benefits, financial support



Partnerships

- Louisville Metro Police Dept
 - Police reports daily for victims 60+
 - Crimes Against Seniors Unit
- Adult Protective Services
- Circuit Court Clerk's Office
- County Attorney
- Commonwealth Attorney
- Legal Aid
- Dare to Care food bank
- Community Ministries
- many others



Unique Issues Related to Older Victims

- Myths and misconceptions about aging
- Vulnerabilities to victimization
- Methods of victimization
- Recovering from victimization
- Interactions with the criminal justice system

Why is it important to address elder abuse?

- 85% unreported
- 1 in 10 seniors
- **Elders who have been abused have a 300% higher risk of premature death**
- National healthcare cost related to physical injury \$5.3 billion annually
- National financial loss related to exploitation is \$2.9 billion+ annually



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