



# Elder Abuse Prevention Network Newsletter - June 2018

Welcome to the first Newsletter for the Elder Abuse Prevention Network. The June 2018 edition will feature information about upcoming events, latest news and new resources available to support Elder Abuse Prevention Network Members. As always our knowledgeable Engagement Officer Roger Moulton is available to support members to take action to prevent Elder Abuse.

## Upcoming events

**The Country Women’s Association Ballarat is hosting a Seniors Forum and Mini Expo.** Come along to this exciting event.

Date: June 14<sup>th</sup> 2018,  
Time: 9:30am arrival for 10:00am start ,  
Where: Ballarat Greyhounds Function Room, Cnr Rubicon and Sutton St, Ballarat

**Do you want to know more about your medical rights or how to support a client or family member to plan for their medical needs?** All are welcome to attend an upcoming information session and hear from Bill O’Shea. Bill is the current Chair of the Law Institute’s Elder Law Section and also co-hosts a segment on ABC radio each week.

Date: June 21<sup>st</sup> 2018  
Time: 3:30pm-5:30pm  
Where: Ballarat Community Health, Lucas  
RSVP: [louisef@bchc.org.au](mailto:louisef@bchc.org.au) or [RogerM@bchc.org.au](mailto:RogerM@bchc.org.au)  
Phone: 53384518

**” Your voice, your choice”** come and learn how to help older people understand the importance of choosing the right person as their Power of Attorney. The Office of the Public Advocate is offering this insightful session to support community members.

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
Time: 10am – 12pm  
Where: Ballarat Community Health, 12 Lilburne St, Lucas



## What’s been happening:

The **“Conversation Seeds”** workshop was held in April, facilitated by Gary Ferguson from Seniors Rights Victoria. Over 37 representatives from organisations and community groups attended this session. Those that attended said it was a valuable and informative session and supported them to start the conversation with older people about elder abuse.

Network members can get tips for actions in the new **“Helpful Hints for Actions Guide”** This guide lists lots of ideas that your organisation or group can do to address Elder Abuse.

Looking for information about what support services are available for people experiencing elder abuse. The new Elder Abuse Referral Brochure details services available in the local area.

These new resources are available on the BCH website: <https://bchc.org.au/services/elder-abuse-prevention> or contact Roger Moulton if you would like a copy of these resources.

## COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION FOR SENIORS COMMUNITY GROUPS

### Life Planning

The Wills and Powers of Attorney and Workshop provides up-to-date information about the need for these documents and how to complete them.

### Deceased Estates

Covers topics including death certificates; funeral arrangements and payment, who to notify, paperwork, Probate, Letters of Administration

### Securing Their Future

For parents and carers of children with disabilities. Topics include Powers of Attorney, applying for a guardian or administrator, wills, leaving your assets to your child, deciding what to do with the family home.

For more information, or to make a booking, please call 5331 5999 or email [reception\\_chclc@chclc.org.au](mailto:reception_chclc@chclc.org.au) [www.chclc.org.au](http://www.chclc.org.au)



**Follow up information sessions:**  
Follow up information sessions will be available for all network members to support them to talk about elder abuse and raise awareness. Please contact Roger Moulton to arrange a time.



*Do you need further support?*  
*These resources are available to help:*

- Becoming a member of the Elder Abuse Prevention Network
- Elder Abuse Prevention Network Membership form
- Information Guide – Where to find information about Elder Abuse Prevention
- Helpful hints for Actions
- Referral Brochure



Resources are available at:  
<https://bchc.org.au/services/elder-abuse-prevention> or contact Roger Moulton if you would like a copy of these resources.


## Federation University Student Placement

Donna Tucker, Federation University Student is embarking on an exciting student placement at Ballarat Community Health for the next 4 weeks. Donna will be identifying services and supports for people experiencing elder abuse in the Central Highlands area. From this a brochure outlining the nature of elder abuse and the appropriate referral pathways will be developed. This will support organisations and community groups to respond appropriately to members of the community who may disclose alleged abuse. The resource will be promoted to the network and broader community. Donna will be contacting some of the network members over the next few weeks.

### Helpful Hints for Action

Helpful Hints for action to prevent elder abuse



### Information Guide

Where to find information about Elder Abuse Prevention

### Elder Abuse – Where to get support?




**What is Elder Abuse?**  
Elder Abuse is when an older person is experiencing harm from someone in their family or from someone they trust.

Types of Elder Abuse	Support Services
<b>Emotional Abuse</b> Using threats, humiliation or harassment causing anguish and feelings of shame or powerlessness. It often occurs in combination with other forms of abuse.	Ballarat Community Health – Ph: 53384500 Grampians Community Health – (counselling) – Ph: 5358 7400
<b>Social Abuse</b> Preventing contact with relatives, friends or service providers or restricting activities	Ballarat Community Health – Ph: 53384500 Grampians Community Health – (counselling) – Ph: 5358 7400 Centacare Access and Support Program Ph: 53378999
<b>Financial Abuse</b> Using someone's money, property or other assets illegally or improperly, or forcing someone to change their will or sign documents.	Central Highlands Community Legal Centre (Free legal advice to people in Central Highlands and Wimmera Region) Ph: 53315999, <a href="http://www.chcslc.org.au">www.chcslc.org.au</a> Child and Family Services (Financial counselling) – Ph: 53373 333 Victoria Legal Aid (free legal advice for eligible clients) Ph: 1300 792 387 or 5329 6222 Women's Legal Service Victoria (free legal advice for eligible women) Ph: 8622 0600 or 1800 133 302 (toll free) or 5329 6222 Women's Legal Service Victoria (free legal advice for eligible women) Ph: 8622 0600 or 1800 133 302 (toll free) Centacare's Victims Assistance and Counselling Program (criminal justice information and support) Ph: 1300 033 818 Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service – Ph: 1800 105 303

**If you are experiencing any form of elder abuse contact:**

- VicPolice -000
- Seniors Rights Victoria- 1300 368 821 (Monday-Friday 10am-5pm)
- Lifeline – 131144
- 1800 RESPECT
- Your General Practitioner

Types of Elder Abuse	Support Services
<b>Physical Abuse</b> Inflicting pain or injury, by hitting, slapping, pushing or using restraints	WRWSC (Women only family violence specialist support service) Ph: 53336666 Berry Street (family violence specialist crisis response and support services) Ph: 53313 558
<b>Neglect</b> Failing to provide the basic necessities of life, either intentionally or unintentionally	Relationships Australia (counselling and family dispute resolution) – Ph: 5337 9222 (Ballarat) DHHS Disability Information and Support – Ph: 1800 793 783 Grampians Disability Advocacy – Ph: Ararat 5352 2722, Ballarat 5333 7344, Daylesford 5348 3350 Centacare Access and Support Program – Ph: 53378999
<b>Sexual Abuse</b> Any sexual activity for which the person has not consented.	Centre Against Sexual Assault (Counselling and support to anyone who has experienced sexual violence) Ph: 1800 806 292 (24/7 crisis) or 53203933 (Ballarat)

National Community Health would like to acknowledge the following organisations for their support in developing this document: Seniors Rights Victoria, Central Highlands Community Health, Ballarat Community Health, Grampians Community Health, Centacare, CHIFVC, Relationships Australia, Berry Street, DHHS Disability Information and Support, Women's Legal Service Victoria, Victoria Legal Aid, Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service.

**For further information**  
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