

FINANCIAL ABUSE SPECIALITY TEAMS

Protecting Elders Through Collaboration



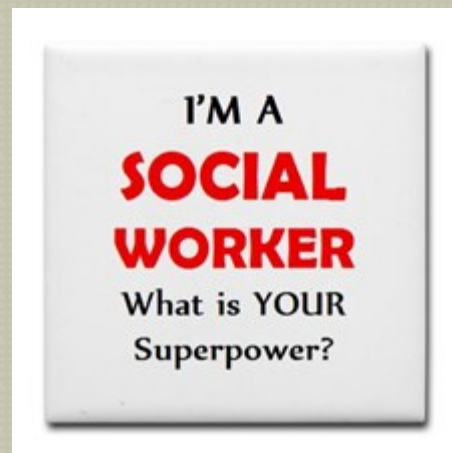
Critical Need to Address Financial Abuse

- Increase number of seniors = Increased number of reports
- Increased number of reports = increase in seniors swindled
- Increase number of swindles = increased losses
- Increased losses = poor outcomes

TOUGH CASES

Are are financial abuse cases difficult to investigate?

Why???





Protection Through Collaboration

Anthony and Janay are mentally disabled siblings. Anthony was conserved. They inherited a home. Each of them borrowed against the home at an interest rate of slightly less than 20%. Loan fees were 55%. A report was made to APS. Does the social worker need to consult with professionals to resolve this case? How many professionals could the assigned social worker consult with in order to investigate the case? What is the goal? Can APS achieve their goal by working only with law enforcement?

Private/Public Partnerships

- Goal: Bring together public and private sectors together to address elder financial abuse.
 - Team founded in 2000
 - Founding members remain on Steering Committee
 - Authorized by County Board of Supervisors
- Regular consultation at meetings
- Member education
- SacFAST Receives no funding
 - Meet in donated space
 - Chair is a Civil Attorney
 - Co-Chair is a Financial Advisor
 - Staffed by APS



SacFAST: Still Going Strong

- Steering Committee
- Meeting Structure
 - Education
 - Case Consultation
 - Clients have a right to self-determination to the full extent of their ability
 - Clients should expect confidentiality
 - Least intrusive alternatives possible
- Networking



SacFAST Membership

- Roster
 - 90 Members
 - Diverse Group
 - Better Business Bureau
 - Department for Business Oversight Counsel
 - Bank Loss Prevention Officers
 - Sacramento Valley High-Tech Crime Task Force
 - FBI White Collar Crime Supervisor
 - Long-Term Care Ombudsman
 - Civil Attorney
 - Professional Fiduciary Association Officer
 - Chief Deputy District Attorney
 - Area 4 Agency on Aging

Selecting Members

- Is there a Team need for collaboration and expertise?
- Is the request made for the purposes of victim advocacy?
- Does the proposed member have a history of interest in assisting seniors?
- Is there a risk the proposed member would gain financial benefit if they became part of the team?



Confidentiality & Conflict of Interest

- FAST Members Sign Confidentiality Agreements
 - Case consultations disclose the least amount of information or records relevant to the prevention and treatment of elder financial abuse
 - Authorized by CA WIC Statue that allows for the creation of multi-disciplinary teams
 - Names not used
 - All consultations are confidential
- Conflict of Interest
 - Members may not receive gifts or gratuities related to any FAST case
 - Members may not own or manage long-term care facilities
 - Members may not engage in any activity that would create a perception that their participation was for other than victim advocacy

Benefits of SacFAST

- Timely consultations with subject matter experts
- Greater ability to protect and obtain restitution for clients
- Inter-disciplinary education
- Networking and Updates
- APS Servant-Advisors
- Public Relations / Media Support

Questions???

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