

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of a network of thin, light blue lines and small circles, resembling a circuit board or a neural network. The lines are vertical and horizontal, with some diagonal connections, and the circles are placed at various points along these lines.

CONNECTING THE DOTS

BRINGING LAW ENFORCEMENT AND VICTIM ADVOCACY TOGETHER

WELCOME – NAPSA 2020 ATTENDEES

- Your Presenters

- Lt. David Kennamer – Detective Lieutenant for the Office of Genesee County Sheriff
- Sgt. Jillian Macey – Sergeant/Victim Specialist Elder Abuse Task Force
- Jennifer Titsworth, LLMSW – Social Worker Elder Abuse Task Force



HISTORY OF OFFICE OF GENESEE COUNTY SHERIFF ELDER ABUSE TASK FORCE

- Established in 2008 with the help of mileage funding – Dedicates investigators to elder abuse and financial exploitation cases throughout Genesee County Michigan
- Victim Services Division – Funded through VOCA grant awarded in October 2018 – Dedicates direct services to victims of elder abuse and financial exploitation for vulnerable adults in Genesee County Michigan

THE BASICS – BRINGING THE TEAM TOGETHER

ELDER ABUSE HOTLINE **SUPPORT**



ON SCENE RESPONSE



SUPPORT



ELDER ABUSE HOTLINE

- Provide residents with a 24 hour hotline to call with concerns for themselves, a neighbor, family member, or friend
- Calls answered by a person
- May lead to a welfare check
- ? Referrals from hotline in the past 2 years

ON SCENE RESPONSE

- Social worker and victim specialist complete welfare checks with assistance of certified police deputy, paramedic as well as investigators when/if necessary.
- Patrol and Paramedic staff can request immediate assistance on scene with victim(s)
 - Can be called to the home, hospital or senior living residence
 - Work with on scene staff to support victim as investigators gather information on crime
 - Social worker can complete assessment to determine vulnerability

SUPPORT AND SAFETY PLANNING

- Help develop a relationship with the victim from the beginning
- Help the victim to trust law enforcement personnel
- Begin safety planning immediately
 - Is the victim in a safe living environment?
 - Start Personal Protection Order paperwork if necessary
 - Contacting other family members if available

UNTAPPED KNOWLEDGE

- Majority of perpetrators of elder abuse and financial exploitation are not “new” to the system.
- Our experience and inside connection gives us access to jail systems and police reports.
 - Allows victim services to have a greater understanding of the victims relationships, living environment, and perpetrators patterns of behavior. All this information aids in safety planning for welfare checks as well as for the elder victim

UNTAPPED KNOWLEDGE

- Already established relationships with probation officers, parole agents, and tether monitors allow victim services team to follow through with victim notifications and aid in further safety planning.

SUPPORT THROUGH EVERY STEP

- Work with Investigators to get bank records, medical documentation, as well as provide support during interviews when needed
- Encourage the victim to follow through with prosecution

SUPPORT THROUGH EVERY STEP

- Help victim understand the criminal justice system every step of the way
 - Can provide transportation when needed to and from court hearings
 - Provide in court support to help calm and reassure the victim is doing the right thing
 - Continued counseling and support as needed by the victim and family

SUPPORT THROUGH EVERY STEP

- Recreate a support system if necessary
- Petition for guardianship or conservatorship if victim is incompetent and unable to meet their own needs
- Work with local resources to provide support in the home or in a senior living community
 - APS
 - Area Agency on Aging
 - Alzheimer's Association