

Senior Support Team of Waterloo Region

Supporting the community through
elder abuse awareness and prevention



WATERLOO REGIONAL
POLICE

The Senior Support Team respects and values the dignity of all persons. We are sensitive to issues of diversity in background, social status, abilities and sexual orientation.

Mission

To work with older adults and their families to create safe living environments and provide an opportunity for change and healing to people affected by elder abuse.

Vision

We envision a community where older adults live free from abuse and live their lives in respectful communities that provide meaning and belonging.

Values

- **Safety:** To live in safety and security
- **Dignity and Respect:** To have personal values and preferences respected
- **Confidentiality:** To determine what personal information may be shared
- **Autonomy:** To determine and control one's own affairs
- **Access to Information:** To receive all the available information to make meaningful and informed decisions
- **Least Restrictive Interventions:** To respect the wishes of older adults and reduce harm in the community

What is elder abuse?

Elder abuse is the mistreatment of an older adult by someone they should be able to rely on: a spouse, a child, another family member, an individual with Power of Attorney, or even a friend.

There are different types of elder abuse:

- Physical
- Financial
- Psychological
- Neglect
- Sexual



Senior Support Team of Waterloo Region

We are dedicated to raising awareness about elder abuse in our community and supporting those who experience it.

We are here to:

- Provide education on how to recognize, prevent and report elder abuse.
- Connect people affected by elder abuse to the support and resources they need.
- Assist with referrals to community agencies.
- Promote conflict resolution.
- Investigate situations that are of a criminal nature.

We support restorative justice, an approach that:

- Responds to elder abuse by focusing on restoring the losses suffered by victims.
- Encourages individuals to take responsibility for their harmful behaviour.
- Builds peace within communities.



What are the warning signs?

Many older adults don't report mistreatment because they are embarrassed, ashamed or afraid the situation will become worse. However, there are warning signs that someone is experiencing elder abuse:

- They are being physically and/or verbally mistreated by someone they rely on.
- They are having difficulty keeping their money safe.
- They are feeling threatened or humiliated.
- They are not getting enough food to eat.
- They are not receiving the proper medical care.
- There is evidence of conflict in the home.

For more information about elder abuse, visit eapon.ca





If someone you know is experiencing elder abuse, please contact the Senior Support Team of Waterloo Region:

Call the Senior Support Team

519-579-4607

Monday to Friday 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Or email us

seniorsupport@wrps.on.ca

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

The Senior Support Team is a partnership of the Waterloo Regional Police Service and Ontario Health atHome.



**Ontario
Health atHome**



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