Office on Violence Against Women Abuse in Later Life Program

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Learning Objectives

- Recognize the importance of including elder voices in designing programming and policy
- Utilize the tools and strategies needed to implement inclusive, elder-informed programs and policies

Inviting Older Adults to Review Policies and Practices

Anne Menard
CEO, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
Why Does This Matter?

- Invisibility and social marginalization of older individuals
- Programs often designed for younger victims
- Older adults more likely to engage with programs that meet their needs
- Honors older survivors’ lived experiences

Organizing and Facilitating Listening Sessions

Bonnie Brandl
Director, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life
End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin
Needs Assessment: Planning

- Plan with a team
- Consider criminal justice professionals, APS, aging service providers, faith community, health care
- Be as inclusive as possible

Needs Assessment: Review Current Response

- Demographic data
- Victim service agencies
- Aging services and APS
- Law enforcement and criminal justice systems
Needs Assessment: Determine Needs

- Written survey tool
- Professionals and older adults
- Electronic and in-person
- Questions need to be consistent between surveys

Needs Assessment: Surveying Older Adults

- Consider language
- Meet older participants where they are and truly engage
- Respond to individuals who self-disclose
- Provide hotline phone numbers
Summary

- Elder-informed programs and policies are part of a comprehensive and effective approach to victim services
- Listening sessions, focus groups, and community needs assessment can be effective methods of seeking information from older community members

Video Presenters

- Anne Menard
  CEO, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
- Sue Hall Dreher
  Consultant Formerly Director, Sexual Assault Support Services of Midcoast Maine
- Bonnie Brandl
  Director, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life
Thank You

- Special thanks to Terra Nova Films for the ongoing working partnership with NCALL and the beautiful video production
- www.terranova.org

Staying Connected to NCALL and Other Advocates

- Sign up for our enewsletter: http://oi.yresp.com/?fid=03fcc93262
- Join our listserv for advocates serving older survivors: ncall@ncall.us
- Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ncall.us
- Join us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/ncall_us