

“My neighbor was sexually assaulted by her grandson.”

“C’mon. He wouldn’t do that to his grandma.”

YOUR REACTION MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.

When someone tells you they’ve been raped, there’s a simple response. *Start by Believing.*

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Sexual assault in later life is a serious, underreported problem.

Advanced age does not protect one from sexual assault, but rather increases risk in many ways.* Resist ageist assumptions that older adults are not victims of sexual crimes. Knowing how to respond to someone who has disclosed abuse is critical—a negative response can worsen the trauma. *Start by Believing.*

When someone comes to you...what will your reaction be?

Start by
Believing



www.startbybelieving.org



www.ncall.us

*Ramsey-Klawnsnik, Holly (2010). Sexual Violence in Later Life Factsheet, National Sexual Violence Resource Center.