

## **Elder Abuse Learn the Warning Signs and Speak Up!**

If you or someone you know is being hurt, extorted feels threatened or frightened, speak up and make a report.

### **What is Elder Abuse?**

Elder abuse is intentional or negligent acts by a caregiver or an individual (often a family member) that harms, or could harm an older adult.

- Neglect
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Financial exploitation
- Emotional abuse
- Abandonment

### **Recognize the Warning Signs:**

- Sudden changes in behavior, finances or life style
- Physical injuries that have no sound explanation, dehydration, malnourishment, under or over medicated
- Extreme withdrawal, depression or isolation
- Absence of basic care and necessities
- Isolated or kept away from friends, family, neighbors
- Unsanitary living conditions
- Fear being around a caregiver or loved one

### **Has anyone:**

- Pushed, hit, or slapped you?
- Taken money or property without permission?
- Withheld or denied care?
- Prevented access to food, medicine, basic needs?
- Threatened or intimidated you?

## What can you do?

- Keep in contact with your older friends, neighbors and family
- Be aware and alert for the possibility of abuse and exploitation
- Look around and take note of what may be happening with your older acquaintances.
- Ask questions and listen
- Don't minimize a person's fear

If you or someone you know is being hurt, extorted, feels threatened or frightened, speak up and make a report.

Emergencies	911
Denver Police Department (non-emergency line)	720-913-2000
Adult Protective Services	720-944-2994
Denver District Attorney's Hotline	720-913-9179
Denver City Attorney's Office	720-913-8020