



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 2017

***ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE
AWARENESS MONTH***

Throughout California and the nation, June is recognized as “Elder and Dependent Adult Awareness Month.” During June, organizations involved in elder and dependent adult abuse investigation, prevention, and education seek to heighten public awareness on this growing issue and to share strategies to more effectively reduce and prevent abuse.

Increased longevity and advances in treating disabilities has made it possible for many older adults and persons with disabilities to live longer in their own home and community. As their need for assistance increases, they may also become vulnerable to becoming a victim—whether that is physical, financial, or emotional abuse or neglect. The perpetrators of this abuse and neglect cut across all economic, racial, and educational levels. Most often, it is a family member.

Throughout California, there are over 225,000 cases of elder and dependent adult abuse every month, and as many as 50,000 cases go unreported. During June, many communities, public agencies, advocates, law enforcement agencies, financial institutions, the healthcare sector, and others will work together to formulate more effective strategies for preventing abuse and to help spread the word on where people can turn for help.

I encourage all of us to learn more about these issues and how to identify the signs of abuse and neglect. If you suspect that abuse is occurring, please contact Adult Protective Services, law enforcement, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, or a local emergency services agency.

Sincerely,


EDMUND G. BROWN JR.