



RANDOLPH COUNTY Department of Social Services

Beth W. Duncan
Director

Samuel R. Frazier
Board Chair

PRESS RELEASE

“Take a Stand in the Fight Against Elder Abuse”; June 15, 2016 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day”

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was launched on June 15, 2006. As we move into the 10th year of this special day, Randolph County Department of Social Services (DSS) would like to take this opportunity to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons.

Every year an estimated 5 million, or 1 in 10, older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation. And that’s only part of the picture. Experts believe that for every case of elder abuse or neglect reported, as many as 23.5 cases go unreported.

Elder abuse affects the disabled and elderly across all socio-economic classes. Mistreatment of the disabled and elderly can take on many forms and include physical abuse, unreasonable confinement, withholding of needed care or treatment, sexual and financial exploitation, neglect of one’s self because of illness, and limited family support and/or resources. Unfortunately, no one is immune. It occurs in every demographic, and can happen to anyone—a family member, a neighbor, even you.

Last fiscal year In Randolph County, DSS investigated 142 reports alleging abuse, neglect or exploitation.

- 97% were on adults living in their own homes
- 3% of the APS reports were on individuals living in long term care facilities
- 72% were 60 years of age or older and 64% of all reports were concerning women
- 32% was self-neglect whereas 30% was caretaker neglect
- The adult child is the most frequently named perpetrator...followed by a spouse

North Carolina is a mandatory reporting state. That means that **any person** who believes an elderly or disabled adult is being abused, neglected or exploited **is required** to report the situation to the local County Department of Social Services. In Randolph County, please call the Randolph County **Adult Abuse Hot Line at (336) 683-8300**.

The Piedmont Triad’s 5th Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Walk, “Be Part of the Solution” will be held on June 18, 2016, at TRIAD PARK, 9652 East Mountain Street, Kernersville, NC. Registration at 9:00am; music and entertainment at 9:45am; and walk begins at 10:00am. There is NO COST TO PARTICIPATE! You can pre-register at kjohnson@ptrc.org or call Kim Johnson at 336-904-0300 or just show up for the walk.

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