Everyone should report abuse. If someone is being hurt or is in danger right now, call 911 immediately.

Respect others.

Advocate.

Incite hope.

Protect.

Do the right thing.

# **NOTES** Who I called: \_\_\_\_\_ What agency: Date I called: \_\_\_\_\_ Incident #: \_\_\_\_\_ Why I called (name of victim, abuse witnessed or suspected, date, location, name of abuser):

VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ELDER
&
VULNERABLE
ADULT ABUSE

24 HOUR CRISIS LINE 503-655-8616

Oregon's adult abuse reporting law affords protection for any individual who reports suspected abuse in good faith. (DHS #9373 9/2010)



John S. Foote
District Attorney
Clackamas County

# What is Abuse of an Adult Vulnerable Victim?

Abuse is the mistreatment or neglect of an older adult (65 yrs. and older) or and any adult (18 years and older) with a disability (physical, developmental or mental illness).

# Abuse may include:

- Physical harm or injury
- Failure to provide basic care
- Financial exploitation, theft or misuse of money or property
- Verbal/emotional abuse, threat, cursing, or blaming;
- Confinement or Isolating from family & friends
- Wrongful restraint
- Unwanted sexual touching;
- Withholding medicine
- Over medicating

# Abuse takes on many forms:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological / Emotional
- Financial Theft or Exploitation
- Neglect / Self Neglect

# People are reluctant to speak about abuse of the elderly or disabled

**VICTIMS** may be too afraid, ashamed or sick to tell someone.

**FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS** may not want to become involved.

**FAMILIES** may not know how to report a trusted person is abusing a loved one.

ABUSERS do not talk about it either!

Fear of retaliation, embarrassment and shame prevent many victims from seeking help, while others remain silent out of the belief that they are protecting their family.

#### **Victim Assistance will:**

- Listen to your situation and help identify solutions with a safety plan
- Assist you with filing for an Abuse Prevention Protective Order
- Provide referrals to community resources, including safe housing
- Assist you through the Criminal Justice System following a report to Law Enforcement

## **Break the Silence of Abuse!**

Do not ignore the signs of abuse of the elderly and disabled. If you suspect that someone is a victim of abuse, neglect or financial exploitation, please call:

#### Law Enforcement DIAL 9-1-1

District Attorney's Office

### **Victim Assistance Program:**

503-655-8616

#### **Adult Protective Services**

Abuse Reporting Line 971-673-7061

**Clackamas County** 

# **Developmental Disabilities Services**

503-655-8640

**Clackamas County** 

#### **Social Services**

503-655-8640