



AGING PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS
From the KY Conference of the United Methodist Church
Older Adult Team

RED FLAGS OF ELDER FINANCIAL ABUSE

Elder abuse sadly takes many forms. It can be physical, sexual or emotional abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation. The latter is when someone – who is often well known by the victim – illegally or improperly uses an elder’s funds, property, or assets. Here are some examples, signs that abuse may be occurring, and steps you can take if you suspect elder financial exploitation.

HOW IT WORKS

- A family member cashes the victim’s checks, uses their credit cards, steals cash or valuables from the home, or convinces them to transfer property.
- A crooked financial consultant drains a victim’s financial accounts.
- A new “friend” enters the picture and appears to have undue influence.

WHAT YOU SHOULD WATCH FOR

- Unusual changes in bank accounts or how the victim is managing his/her money
- Unpaid bills
- Fraudulent signatures on financial documents
- Unusual changes in a will or other financial document

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- If someone is in immediate danger, dial 911
- Report concerns to Adult Protective Services.
- If you suspect abuse of a person living in a nursing home, assisted living facility, or other adult care home, contact Adult Protective Services.

Financial exploitation and fraud come at a huge cost to victims and not only financially. These scourges also have negative social, emotional, and health impacts. If you suspect something, do something. For guidance, call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 877-908-3360.

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