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Governor



Richard Whitley
Director

State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Adult Protective Services (APS)

Aging and Disability Services

Tammy Sever, Social Services Chief



11/6/2019

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.

Agenda Item VII E (SILVER)
Meeting Date: 11-13-19

Agenda

1. Adult Protective Services Mission Statement
2. What is Exploitation?
3. Intake Process
4. Investigation Process
5. Case Sample
6. SFY 19 Elder Abuse Data





Mission Statement

The Mission of Adult Protective Services:

“To assist vulnerable adults, age 18 to 59, in addition to persons 60 years and older who are abused, neglected, exploited, isolated or abandoned by investigating, providing or arranging for services to alleviate and prevent further maltreatment while safeguarding their civil liberties”

As of July 1, 2019, Nevada received legislative authority to investigate allegations of abuse regarding the 18-59 vulnerable person population.



Exploitation

- Any act taken by a person who has the trust and confidence of an older person or a vulnerable person or any use of the power of attorney or guardianship to:
 - Obtain control or convert money, assets or property, through deception, intimidation, or undue influence with the intention of permanently depriving the person of their ownership, use, benefit or possession of their money assets or property.
 - Undue influence means the improper use of power or trust in a way that deprives a person of his or free will. This does not include the normal influence that one member of a family has over another.





Intake Process

- Centralized Intake Unit is located in the Las Vegas Office
 - Monday – Friday 8am to 5pm
 - After hours calls are handled by the Crisis Call Center and emailed to APS to be reviewed on the next business day.
- After a report is received, the Intake Supervisor reviews and assigns cases to an Adult Protective Services (APS) social worker

Investigation Process

- Pursuant to NRS 200.5093, APS staff are required to start the investigation of a report within 3 working days.
- Triage system
 - Level 1 – same day or within 24 hours
 - Level 2 – within 3 working days
- 25% of cases are initiated within 24 hours, regardless of priority level assigned



Investigation Process Continued

- Social worker conducts an unannounced home visit
 - Client consent is needed to proceed with investigation
 - If client is unable to consent, the social worker can proceed with the investigation if it is determined to be in the best interest of the client
- Social worker reviews financial records, such as bank and credit card statements
- With client's permission, social worker interviews the person of interest
- With complex financial exploitation, APS may utilize a Forensic Financial Specialist



Investigation Process Continued

- If financial exploitation is substantiated, referral to law enforcement can be submitted
- APS collaborates with law enforcement
- Law enforcement agency conducts the criminal aspect of the investigation
- APS works with the individual to alleviate and remedy the situation

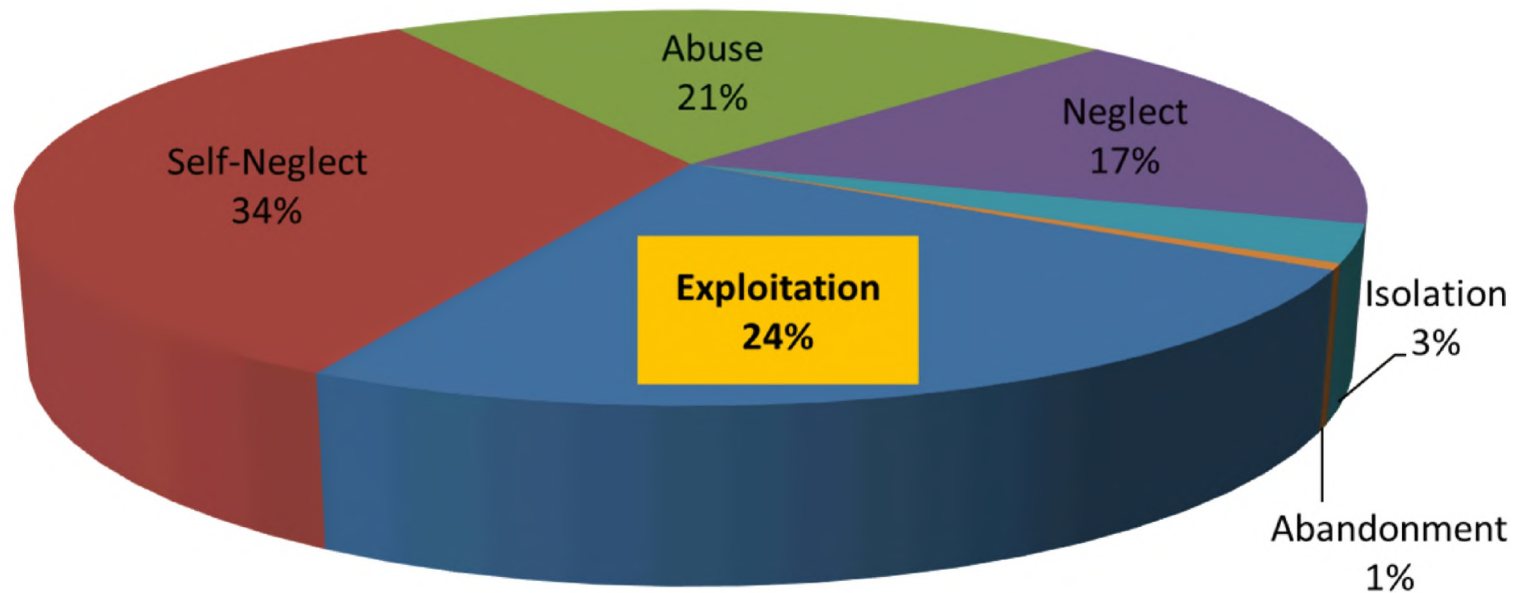


Case Sample

- APS was notified by financial institution that client's daughter was spending large amounts of money
- Funds from retirement account were being transferred to a recently opened joint checking account
- APS Social Worker conducted home visit and spoke to client about the allegation of exploitation
- Client denied having a daughter and at first was suspicious of social worker and did not believe she was being exploited
- Client contacted her financial advisor and discovered the money was being transferred
- Client agreed on a law enforcement referral
- Social Worker accompanied law enforcement on the home visit
- Charges were filed and Person of Interest was found guilty of elder exploitation and was sentenced to 5 years in jail



SF19 – Percent of Elder Abuse by Allegation

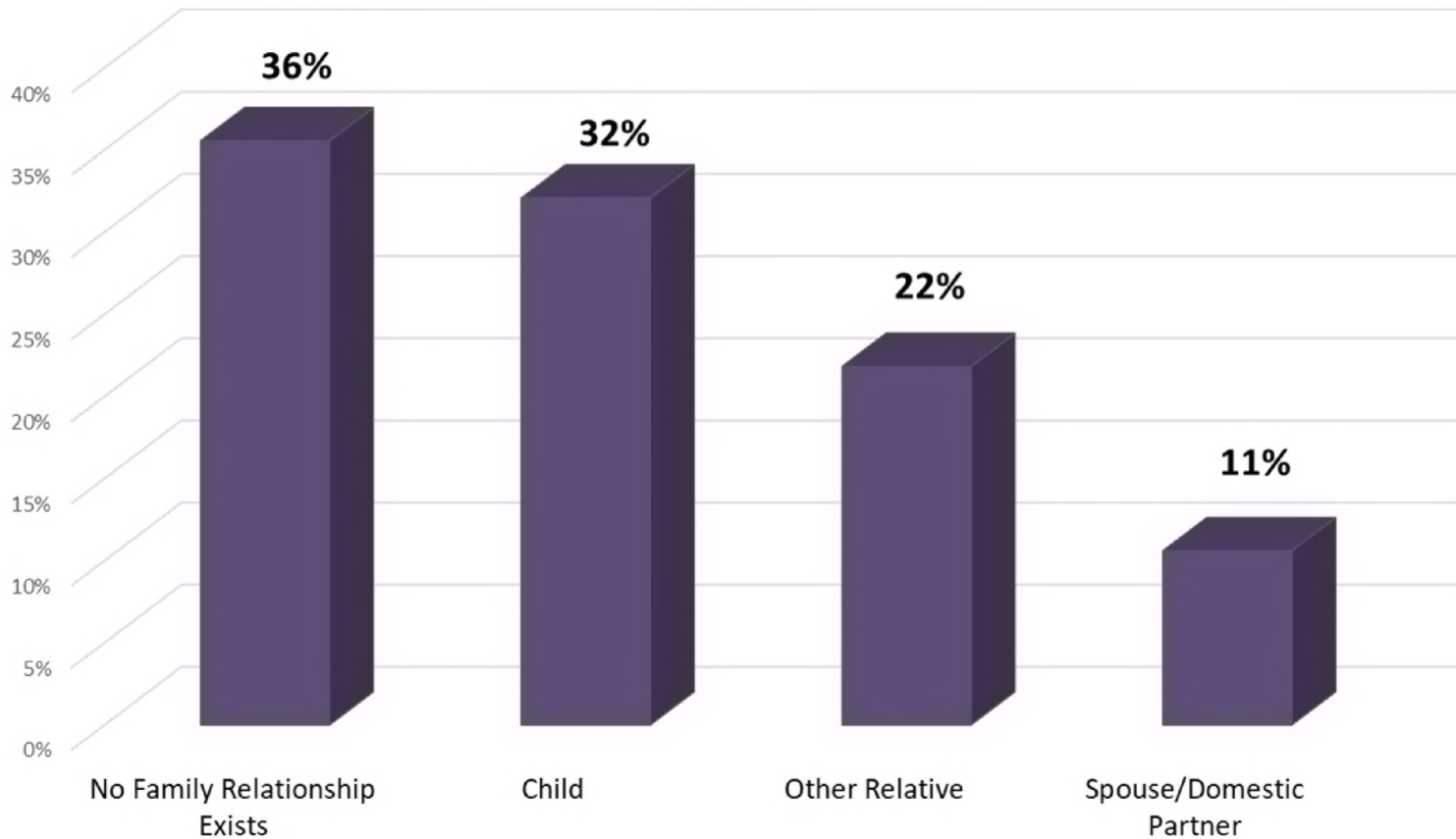


SFY 19 – Number of Allegations Investigated

Exploitation	2,162
Self-Neglect	3,007
Abuse	1,914
Neglect	1,536
Isolation	272
Abandonment	45
Total	8,936

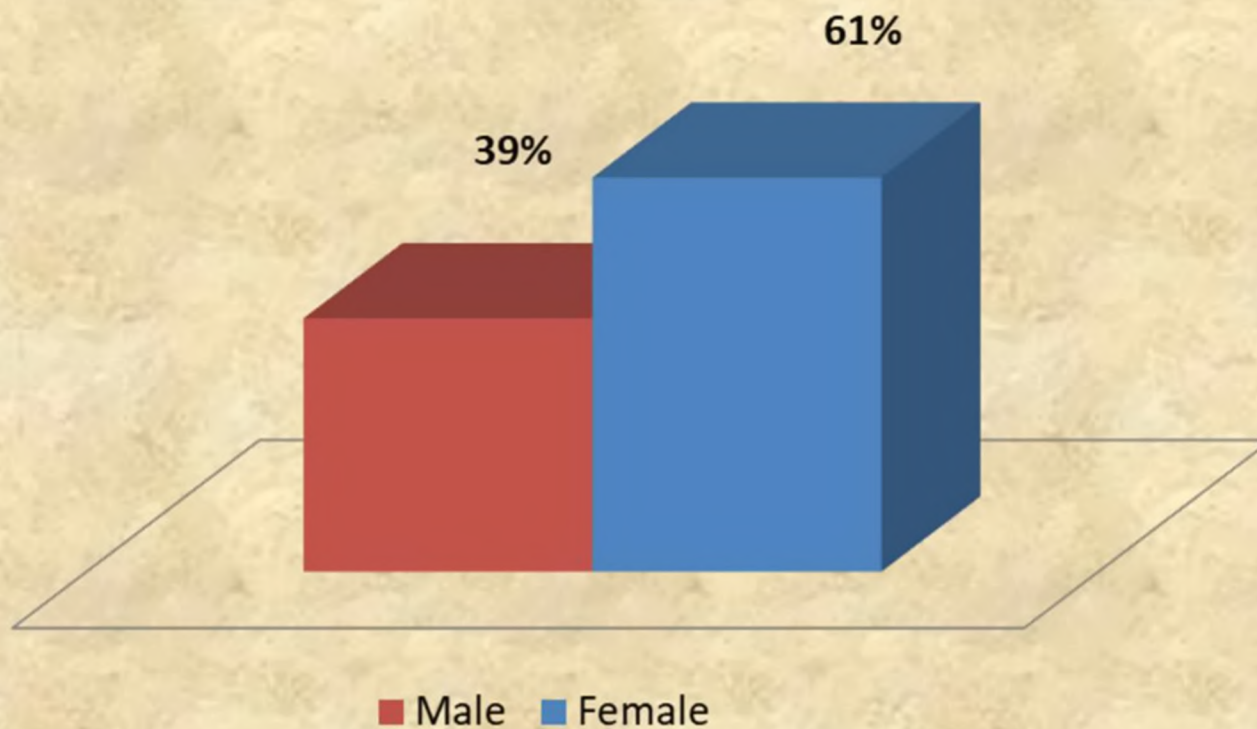


SFY 19 - Percentage of Elder Abuse by Persons of Interest (Excluding Self)

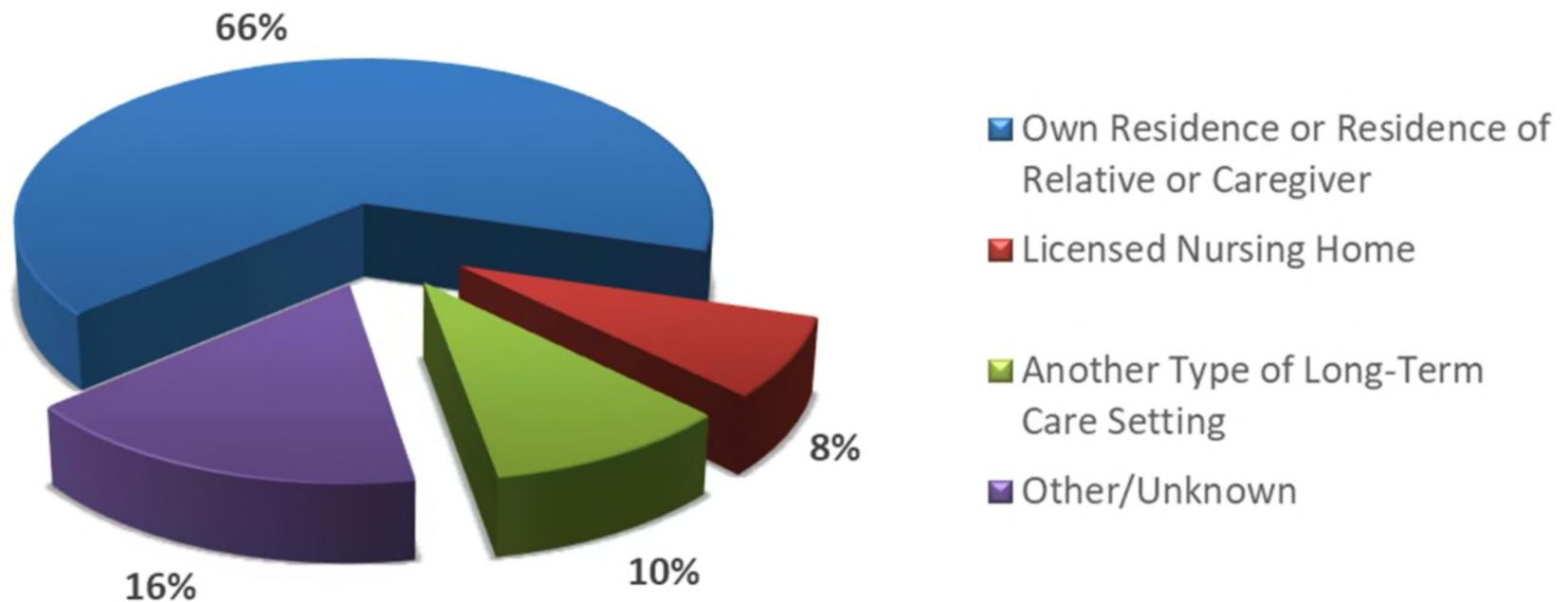




SFY 19 - Percent of Elder Abuse by Gender



SFY 19 – Percent of Elder Abuse by Residence





Report Abuse!

To report suspected older or vulnerable person abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation, or abandonment call:

Las Vegas/Clark County

(702) 486-6930

Statewide/Other Areas

(888)729-0571

AFTER HOURS: Contact any Police Department or Sheriff's Office

If there is imminent danger involved, call 911

For more information see:

Adult Protective Services

http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/Seniors/EPS/EPS_Prog/

Elder Abuse Prevention Training

<http://nevadaadrc.com/component/k2/item/744-elder-abuse-prevention-training-e-learning-path>





Questions?





Contact Information

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http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/Seniors/EPS/EPS_Prog/

