IT TAKES A COMMUNITY **To Prevent Adult Abuse**

Financial Institutions

on accounts. Ensure

transactions are done

Are alert to suspicious activity

according to a person's wishes.

Family, Friends & Neighbours

Can listen and support. Check in on your neighbours and offer a hand where you can.

Legal

Ensure the person's Power of Attorney is set up to best protect their finances and personal care decisions.

Health Care Professionals

Doctors, nurses, therapists, etc. know the warning signs of abuse and how to engage with community resources.

Emergency Response

Respond to and protect people in crisis.

9-1-1

Community Response **Networks**



Do your part to:

- Know the warning signs
- Listen to the person's concerns
- Offer support
- Respect confidentiality

BC 211

Faith Groups

Provide meaningful intergenerational connections with strong community ties.

Free confidential service that connects people to nonemergency community programs and services in their areas.

Available 24/7 just dial 211.

Community **Social Services**

Provide support to communities through a wide spectrum of services for children, youth, adults, families, seniors and people with disabilities.

Community Centres

A safe place to meet new friends and be involved in social groups that keep individuals mentally and physically fit and eliminate social isolation.

Seniors Abuse & Information Line (SAIL)

Confidential and free resource that provides information, referrals and support in over 50+ languages for seniors experiencing abuse.

www.seniorsfirstbc.ca Toll free 1-866-437-1940

8am to 8pm, Mon. to Fri., except statutory holidays

Be Part of the Solution!

An interconnected community can help prevent abuse. BC's Community Response Networks (CRNs) bring the community together to create a coordinated response to adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect. Visit our website to find a CRN near you!



BC ASSOCIATION OF **Community Response Networks**

Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect ... Together.

HOW TO SUPPORT AN ADULT IN NEED

1

LISTEN AND TALK TO THE PERSON IN PRIVATE

Ask questions to learn more about an individual's experience. Understand that often before a person will seek or agree to accept help, they need to be able to trust you and know that you will follow through with the help you offer to give.

2

RESPECT PERSONAL VALUES, PRIORITIES, GOALS AND LIFESTYLE CHOICES OF THE PERSON

Identify support networks and solutions that suit the adult's individuality. Help the person identify resources that could be helpful.

3

RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS

Adults have the right to make decisions, even if those choices are considered risky or unwise by others (including you). Support the individual's autonomy while offering help when it's welcome.

4

SEEK CONSENT OR PERMISSION

Always seek consent before taking any action involving others. Ensure the person agrees, and respect their decision if they decline. Everyone should feel safe and respected.

5

RESPECT CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY RIGHTS

Get consent before sharing another person's private information, including confidential personal or health information.

Together, we can create a society that values and respects people of all ages, now and for generations to come.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of BC.

Thank you to the Elder Abuse Prevention Council for sharing the "It Takes a Community" and "How to Support an Adult In Need" resources with BC CRN.



The Best Way You Can Help

Listening—truly listening—to the person may be your most powerful offering. Here are some examples of supportive language to help start an important conversation.

Supportive language:

- 66 I see what is happening
- 66 I am concerned
- It's not your fault
- 66 I believe you
- 66 I am here for you
- You are an important member of our community

