



Elder Abuse Prevention Association

Protecting Our Vulnerable Older Persons...

Media Release

FROM THE ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

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NEW DATABASE SYSTEM FOR ELDER ABUSE INCIDENTS

A new database system to track reports of elder abuse is now operational, Executive Director of the Elder Abuse Prevention Association, Lillian Jeter announced today.

Ms. Jeter stated that the new system is an innovative and direct initiative to respond to and prevent the abuse of older Australians.

“With incidents of elder abuse being virtually hidden behind the closed doors of the community, this new database will provide tangible statistics on elder abuse as well as providing a valuable tool for research and preventive measures,” Ms. Jeter said.

“The new database will initially contain over 500 incidents of elder abuse from all States and Territories throughout Australia and will cover all locations where abuse is committed against older Australians. Those locations tracked will be private homes, other community settings, retirement villages, SRS facilities, and hospitals as well as hostels, dementia specific facilities, and nursing homes. With new cases coming in daily, information will be added on a continuous basis.”

The new EAPA database has been a year-long joint venture led by the Elder Abuse Prevention Association, in partnership with Melbourne IT Mentor, headed by Scott Evans.

All work done on the completion of the database has been on a pro bono basis by the software system developers along with the EAPA volunteer staff, as well as all future maintenance and continuity efforts. According to Scott Evans of Melbourne IT Mentor, his team used this project not only for skill development but also to give back to the community.

“All members of the team found the volunteering opportunity very rewarding and learnt more about the extent of Elder Abuse as a result of the project”, said Mr. Evans. “Our partnership will continue to enhance the system.”

Centrally coordinated by EAPA, the new database will provide:

- Statistical data on causative factors of abuse
- Breakdown of location and frequency of types of abuse including neglect, mistreatment, physical abuse, financial exploitation, sexual abuse, and psychological abuse
- Data on victims, circumstances and vulnerabilities
- Data on offenders, behavioural concerns, and profiles
- Information on triggers of abuse and identifying warning signs
- Data to assist with preventive mechanisms
- Resource material to assist aged care providers
- Continuous recording of data from all sectors on a national basis

According to Lillian Jeter, the database will provide the **first** insight into the prevalence of elder abuse in neighbourhoods of the community setting with tangible figures and statistics.

“Instead of operating on ‘**guesstimates**’ in the fight against elder abuse, the Elder Abuse Prevention Association is providing a desperately needed system that will be a valuable resource to all stakeholders – and at NO COST to the taxpayers. No older Australian should be victimised in their own home at the hands of an abuser.”

All data and information received is maintained in accordance with privacy legislation.

The Elder Abuse Prevention Association is a not for profit advocacy association. All donations and support towards its continuing work is appreciated.

For further information, please contact:

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