



Patrick Doherty

*ABUSE IN LATER LIFE EDUCATION SERIES FOR ADVOCATES:*  
**POLICIES TO ENHANCE SAFETY  
FOR OLDER SURVIVORS**

Module 16

National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life

2018

## Office on Violence Against Women Abuse in Later Life Program

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## As a Result of This Training, Participants Will Be Better Able to:

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- Recognize unique role advocates play in providing services to older adults
- Identify barriers to common policies utilized by direct service Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault victim service agencies
- Design agency policies that better meet the needs of older survivors

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## Advocates Providing Unique Services

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- Outside the criminal justice system
- Lethality and safety
- Long term support
- Empowerment & peer support

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## Intimate Partner Violence Only

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- Limits services to only victims abused by intimate partner and not victims abused by adult children, other family members and/or caregivers

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## Video: Serving Older Victims Abused by Family Members or Caregivers

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**Bonnie Brandl**  
Director, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life  
End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin

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## Victim Contact Requirements

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- Does not allow advocate to make first contact with victim
- Based on a theory of empowerment
- Limits referrals to DV/SA programs
- Not effective with older survivors

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## Mobile Advocacy

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- Practice of workers meeting victims in various locations including in the victims home
- Mobile Advocacy and Safety
  - Advocate safety
  - Victim safety

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## Video: Mobile Advocacy

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## Agency Review

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- Review facilities, materials, and staff
- Include agency policies, procedures, and outreach materials
- Include older survivors in the process

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## Video: Older Survivors Reviewing Policies

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## Review Common Policy and Procedures

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- Is it an internal policy or “the way we have always done things”
- Is it required through laws or through funders?

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## Create a Plan for Change

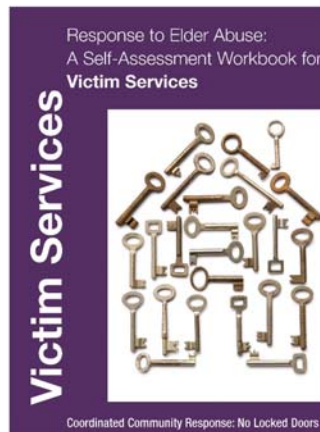
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- Create goals and a timeline
- Assign tasks
- Determine review process
- Evaluate and adjust if necessary

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## Resources

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## Summary

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- Domestic violence and sexual abuse victim service programs have services to offer older victims of abuse
- Policies often need to be reviewed and adjusted to better meet the needs of older survivors
- Older survivors can provide valuable input to programs when reviewing policies and procedures

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## Video Presenters

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- Bonnie Brandl, Director of the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life
- Anne Menard, Executive Director of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
- Sue Hall Dreher, former Director of Sexual Assault Support Services of Maine

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## Thank You

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- Special thanks to Terra Nova Films for the ongoing working partnership with NCALL and the beautiful video production
- [www.terranova.org](http://www.terranova.org)

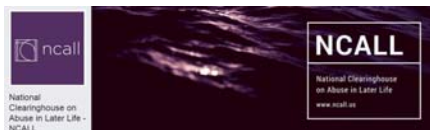


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## Staying Connected to NCALL and Other Advocates

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- Sign up for our newsletter: <http://oi.vresp.com/?fid=03fcc93262>
- Join our listserv for advocates serving older survivors: [ncall@ncall.us](mailto:ncall@ncall.us)
- Join us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ncall.us](http://www.facebook.com/ncall.us)
- Join us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/ncall\\_us](http://www.twitter.com/ncall_us)



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## National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)

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National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life,  
a project of End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin:  
(Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence)

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