



Introduction



SC Safe Seniors trains healthcare professionals on how to identify and refer cases of elder abuse and provides mental health counseling at no cost to victims of elder abuse.



Mara Allport, B.A.
Training Program
Manager



Theresa Skojec, LPC
Mental Health
Services Manager



Tatiana Davidson,
Ph.D.
Program Director

Elder Abuse Assessment Training and Mental Health Services Program.
South Carolina Office of the Attorney General Victims of Crime Act Program VOCA1V22057

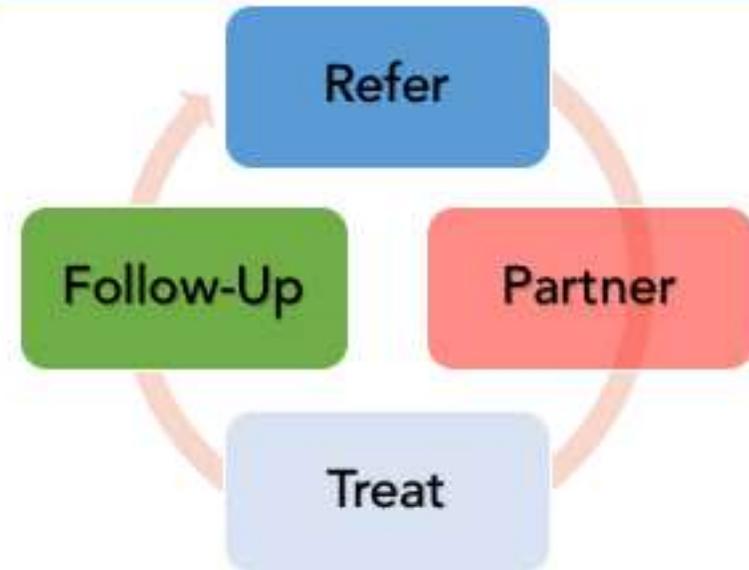


Elder Abuse Assessment Training & Mental Health Services Program

Elder Abuse Assessment Training



Mental Health Services



Strategic Goals

Behavioral Health

- Provide evidence-based care and support to older adults
- Enhance accessibility through utilization of telehealth

Training

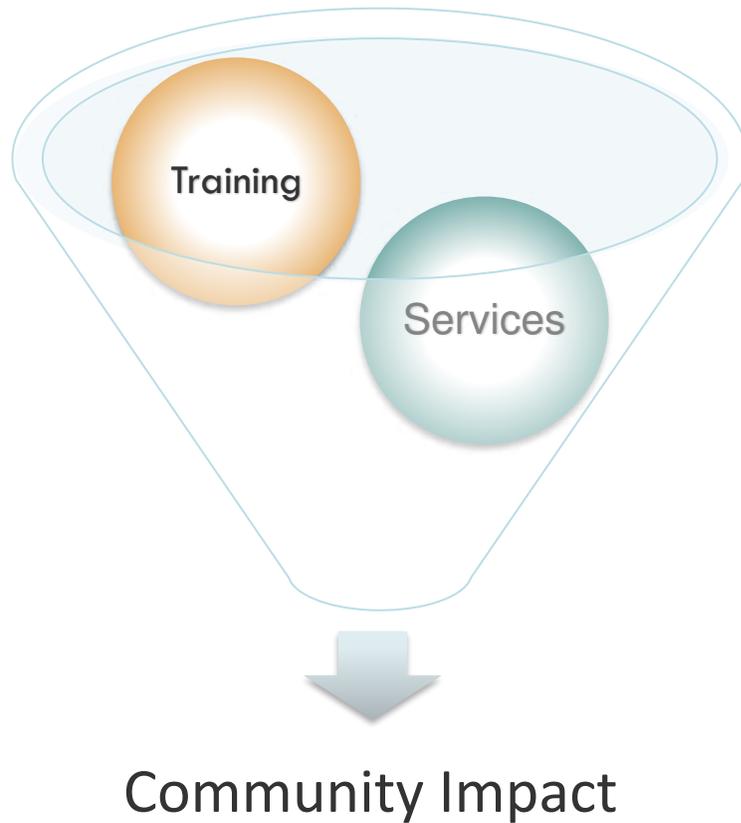
- Educate providers on how to identify elder mistreatment through screening
- Enhance our community safety net on how to refer and report potential cases

Outreach

- Build strong partnerships across the state to provide more comprehensive care to victims
- Increase awareness of elder mistreatment and the available resources to address the issue
- Provide education on mental health, cognition, and well-being throughout the lifespan



Community Engagement & Outreach

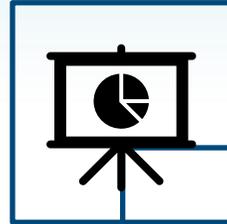


Elder Abuse Assessment Training



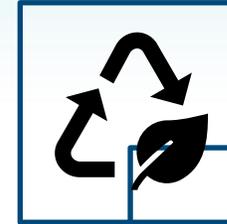
Target Audience

- Healthcare Providers
- Healthcare Professionals
- Administrators
- Intake Specialists
- Clinic Managers
- Indirect Care
- Senior Center Staff
- Transportation Services
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Social Clubs



Logistics

- 60-minute presentation
- Provided in-person or via video conference
- Provided with additional materials such as literature, screening tools, and local resources



Goals

- Understand the training rationale and importance of screening
- Understand how to identify elder abuse: “what should I ask?”
- Learn referrals, resources, various treatment and service options for victims



Mental Health Services Program

Importance

- Following abuse, an older adult may develop:
 - Depression
 - PTSD
 - Anxiety
- Risk of alcohol, drug, and tobacco use increases
- Increased risk of hospitalization and premature death

Delivery

- Patient receives one hour counseling sessions weekly with Therapist
- Delivered through *Vidyo* video-conference program
 - HIPAA compliant
- Accessed through iPad provided by program
- Any technical issues solved by Treatment Coordinator

Measurements & Goals

- Patient symptoms are evaluated for significant signs of depression, PTSD, and anxiety.
- The major goals for treatment are established between the therapist and the patient, but mainly focus on restoring a sense of safety and pre-trauma functioning.



Social Isolation in Older Adults

- Factors leading to isolation:
 - Living in rural or isolated areas
 - Changes to family and friend connections
 - Loss of ability (driving, limited mobility, etc)
 - Shifts in roles (retirement, caregiver vs receiving care)
 - Concerns of being a "burden"
 - Lack of reciprocity from family/friends
- Increases risk for:
 - Abuse and exploitation
 - Negative mental health outcomes
 - Cognitive decline and dementia
 - Negative health outcomes
- Strategies to increase connection:
 - Senior centers
 - Religious groups
 - Local social groups (rotary, library, AARP, etc)
 - Neighbors and community activities
 - Local AAA
 - Volunteering
 - Attempt to reconnect with family & friends



Discussion Groups

Target Audience

- Older Adults (55+)
- Residing in low-income housing developments
- Both male and female welcome to groups

Topics

- Elder Abuse
- Depression
- Stress & Anxiety
- Mindfulness
- Emotion Regulation

Goals

- Increase available social support
- Decrease isolation among group participants
- Promote education and awareness of overall health and well-being among older adults



Elder Abuse Prevention Talks

Target Audience

- Social Clubs
 - Rotary Club
 - Lion's Club
- Public Libraries
- Service Organizations
- Church Groups

Logistics

- Delivered in person at the normal meeting time of the group
- Presenters are equipped with a mobile projector and handout materials to give to attendees

Goals

- Increase awareness of elder abuse
- Increase people's understanding of the factor's surrounding this issue
- Encourage people to support and engage with older adults as a way to prevent elder abuse



Elder Abuse Prevention Talks



Faith Sellers Senior Center, Summerville, SC



“Power of Flowers” Mindful Flower Arranging Class

Target Audience

- Senior Center Members

Logistics

- One hour class delivered in person on Mondays
- Presenters are equipped with donated flower and shears. Members bring their own vase or borrow one from center.

Goals

- Decrease isolation
- Increase cognitive activity
- Encourage mindfulness, creativity, and self-acceptance
- Increase awareness of the SC Safe Senior program





LOUIS WARING, JR.
SENIOR CENTER



Charleston Area Senior Center (Downtown),
Sherman House (West Ashley), Lowcountry Senior
Center (James Island), Waring Senior Center (West
Ashley)



“Crafting a Community” Class

Target Audience

- Senior Center Members

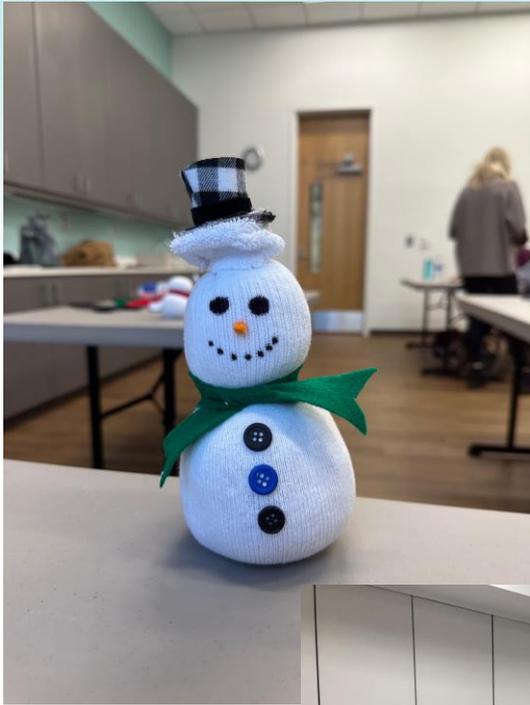
Logistics

- Delivered in person by College of Charleston Public Health Intern with support by The Citadel’s Master’s Program in Clinical Counseling Intern
- Materials purchased by program using indirect funds
- Hour long class with pre-and post-evaluation

Goals

- Increase socialization and encourage meeting new friends at the center
- Increase awareness of mindfulness
- Gives intern opportunity to engage with community





Waring Senior Center and Lowcountry Senior Center



Reach Across the State

The image features a central map of South Carolina divided into its counties. Red stars are placed on the following counties: Greenville, York, Richland, Florence, Georgetown, and Charleston. The word "Columbia" is written in red above the Richland county star. Surrounding the map are several logos for regional agencies and councils of governments:

- APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**: Logo with a mountain range.
- CATAWBA AREA AGENCY ON AGING**: Logo with a stylized tree.
- SANTEE LYNCHES**: Logo with a stylized 'S' and "50 Years of Service" banner. Text: "Regional Council of Governments".
- CENTRAL MIDLANDS Council of Governments**: Logo with a star and the text "Council of Governments".
- WACCAMAW REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**: Logo with a tree and the text "REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS".
- Piedmont Agency on Aging, Inc.**: Photo of a building with a sign that says "PA Piedmont Agency on Aging, Inc. WE SERVE MORE THAN JUST A MEAL".
- Trident Area Agency on Aging**: Logo with three overlapping circles (red, green, blue). Text: "Assistance, Advocacy, Answers on Aging".
- UPPER SAVANNAH Council of Governments**: Logo with a map outline of the region.
- Hampton County**: Logo with the name in a cursive font.
- Lowcountry COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**: Logo with a white bird and the text "COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS".

