

June 04, 2024

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

Proclaim June 2024 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month, and June 15, 2024, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Los Angeles County

Each year, millions of older adults, dependent adults, and adults with disabilities are victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. These victims suffer mental, physical, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect, abandonment, isolation, and financial exploitation. Last year, the Los Angeles County Aging & Disabilities Department's (AD) Adult Protective Services (APS) program received and responded to over 57,000 referrals of elder and dependent adult abuse, and the numbers continue to increase annually.

To prevent further incidents of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation and isolation, community awareness and engagement are essential. AD will make significant efforts throughout the month of June 2024 to promote World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), including the following:

- Participation in 14 outreach events about WEAAD and APS services to Area Agency on Aging providers, regional centers, and residents.
- Outreach to Los Angeles County's 88 cities and their respective mayors, banking institutions, law enforcement agencies, contract partners, and community and senior centers.
- Coordination of a webinar open to the public and focused on WEAAD and AD programs

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and services.

- APS WEAAD campaign outreach event at the Los Angeles County Hall of Administration.
- LAX pylons lit purple in honor of WEAAD.
- Posting pictures on the departmental website and social media accounts, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) and the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) have declared June 15, 2024, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, recognizing the significance of elder and dependent abuse as a public health and human rights issue. We must continue our work to ensure our older adults, dependents, and disabled adults are able to age with dignity and respect.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim June 2024 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month throughout Los Angeles County.
2. Proclaim June 15, 2024, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day throughout Los Angeles County.
3. Direct the Aging and Disabilities Department to conduct community outreach education and provide educational materials to County departments and residents about prevention, reporting, and elimination of elder and dependent adult abuse in the County of Los Angeles with the goal of educating the public to ensure that elderly and dependent adults maintain their quality of life safely, with dignity and respect.

4. Encourage all Los Angeles County residents to wear purple in honor of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month.

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