Know the Law

Louisiana Law (R.S. 15:1504) requires the reporting of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults. Failure to report is a crime. The law grants immunity to any citizen who reports in good faith. The law also protects against retaliation.

We must protect our elderly and vulnerable adults by learning to recognize the signs of abuse, neglect, and exploitation:

- Bruises and skin discoloration
- Burns, welts, cuts, evidence of bites or bed sores
- Visitors refused access to the house
- Withdrawal (refusing to or not allowed to leave home)
- Unclean, smelly, dirty or inadequate clothes
- Weight loss, appears hungry, begging, or searching for food
- No utilities
- Unsanitary surroundings
- Use of adult’s monies/resources by another
- Withdrawal of money in substantial amounts
- Restricted movement, locked in room