NATIONAL TRENDS IN COMBATTING ELDER FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

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Elder Financial Exploitation: Common Issues Across States

- Caregiving

- Typically a bi-partisan issue that stretches across all branches of government

- Issue isn’t “hot”...UNLESS there’s a crisis or tragedy

- Broad issue with many tentacles

- No One-Size-Fits-All Solution

- Lack of Data and Research

- Overlap with other vulnerable adult issues, like guardianship

- Policy wonks aren’t necessarily the same as on the ground/frontline workers and vice versa
Current Trends in Combatting EFE

• More collaboration/taskforces/multidisciplinary teams

• State Courts are taking on a more active role (ex. WINGS)

• Adult guardianship oversight/monitoring reforms to prevent abuse/exploitation

• Increase in Training, Education and Outreach for ALL

• Increase in Federal involvement
Combatting Elder Financial Exploitation

- Strengthening APS
- Multidisciplinary Response
- Enhance Criminal & Civil Penalties
- Guardianship and Power of Attorney Reforms
- Training
- Education and Outreach

Elder Financial Exploitation
2015 – 2017 Financial Exploitation State Activity

[Map showing financial exploitation activity across the United States, with states in green and a few in gray.]
Coming Soon to a State Near You

• States are identifying and addressing overlapping issues

• New Uniform Act on Guardianship
  • Person Centered Approach
  • Alternatives to guardianship
  • Standards for Professional Guardians

• More ongoing Taskforces and WINGS

• More Resources for Fiduciaries
  • AARP Texas Guides
AARP Resources

• AARP in your state: www.aarp.org/states/

• Caregiving Resources: www.aarp.org/caregiving

• Fraud Watch Network: www.aarp.org/fraudwatch

• Managing Someone Else’s Money in Texas: https://protecttheirmoneytx.org
Additional Resources

- American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Association of Attorneys General
- National Center on Elder Abuse
- National Adult Protective Services Association
- National Guardianship Association
- National Center for State Courts
- U.S. Department of Justice, Elder Justice Initiative
Contact for More Information

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