

What is Elder Abuse & Mistreatment?

Intentional or neglectful acts by someone you know or trust.

Emotional: someone making you feel threatened or shameful

Financial: using your money against your wishes or forcing to sign documents

Physical: being touched in ways that are unwanted or cause injury

Sexual: being forced to do sexual acts that are unwanted

Neglect: being prevented from receiving care, medication, or aides

Common Reactions to Trauma

Abuse is painful in the moment and it can have lasting effects, such as:

Depression: feelings of hopelessness, sadness, shame or guilt

Anxiety: a feeling that the worst possible things will happen or excessive worrying

Increased stress: always "on edge," intentionally avoiding other people or certain places

Adjustment problems: distress that leads to a change in your actions and overall well being

Emotional Recovery

For many people, negative reactions, such as depression or anxiety, go away on their own in the months following a traumatic event. But this doesn't happen for everyone. If negative reactions persist more than a month after the trauma, it may be time to seek professional help.

We are here to help

Contact us for learn about our free and confidential services.

843-284-6682

ElderAbuseHelp@musc.edu

How can we help?

We offer evidence-based mental health counseling to those who have experienced a traumatic event at any time in their lives and are struggling to cope with the effects. All services are free of charge (no insurance needed), and are available via live video sessions with a SC licensed professional counselor.

Who do we serve?

Adults aged 50 and up living in South Carolina who are struggling to cope with experiencing a traumatic event in their lives.

Contact Us

If you have any questions about service options or community-based referrals, contact us:

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**Elder Abuse Assessment Training &
Mental Health Services Program
Medical University of South
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Mental Health Services for Older Adults



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