



**Crater District**  
Area Agency on Aging

## PROCLAMATION

### **Designating June 15, 2023 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD).**

**Whereas**, [county/city governing body] recognizes that in 2006, the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse proclaimed June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day;

**Whereas**, the United States Census Bureau, Population Division's data "*2020: American Community Survey (ACS) -year Estimates Subject Tables*" prepared by the Crater Planning District Commission, reports that the total number of Virginians age 60 and older numbers 1, 838,379 seniors; and

**Whereas**, according to the Department of Justice (DOJ) Elder Abuse Initiative, elder abuse is an intentional or negligent act by any person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to an older adult; subtypes of elder abuse include physical abuse, financial fraud, scams, exploitation, caregiver neglect and abandonment, psychological abuse, and sexual abuse; and

**Whereas**, the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) reported Adult Protective Services (APS) data for state fiscal year 2022; of the 40,371 reports of adult abuse, neglect or exploitation received through the Adult Protective Services Program, 77 percent of the statewide data were persons age 60 years and older; and

**Whereas**, the majority of the APS reports of adult abuse, neglect or exploitation during fiscal year 2022 were reported by a relative followed by financial institution staff; and

**Whereas**, the Adult Protective Services Program report indicates that self-neglect is the most common type of maltreatment experienced in Virginia, at 62%; and neglect and financial exploitation, when combined occur in 27% of the cases, and

**Whereas**, elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation have no boundaries and cross all racial, social, class, gender, and geographic lines, according to the Elder Justice Coalition; and

**Whereas**, the National Center on Elder Abuse will be sharing resources during the week of WEAAD, hosting discussions, and promoting awareness about elder abuse on the following dates and around these daily themes:

- June 12<sup>th</sup> Monday: Interdisciplinary partnerships
- June 13<sup>th</sup> Tuesday: Intergenerational collaboration
- June 14<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday: Intervention and prevention
- June 15<sup>th</sup> Thursday: Intersectionality of elder abuse
- June 16<sup>th</sup> Friday: International elder justice efforts

**Now, therefore,** the Board of Supervisors of Dinwiddie County, Virginia do hereby proclaim June 15, 2023 to be Elder Abuse Awareness Day and recognize professionals, agencies, and advocates for their efforts to advance awareness of elder abuse; and

We urge every resident in our community to take time during this important day to support older adults and the people who serve them as essential and valuable members of our community, and to identify and report suspected elder abuse within our community.

Dated this 16th day of May, 2023  
Dinwiddie County Board of Supervisors