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LANSING

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Michigan Office of Services to the Aging awards grants to prevent elder abuse, neglect, exploitation

LANSING, Mich. – Organizations across the state working on strategies to prevent elder abuse, neglect and exploitation will get a boost from eight grants awarded today by the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA).

The grants, totaling \$183,216, are the final awards under OSA's Prevent Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Exploitation, Neglect Today (PREVNT) initiative. The organizations that received funding are:

- Disability Network Oakland & Macomb: Awarded \$18,020 for elder and vulnerable adult abuse, neglect and exploitation outreach and education efforts.
- Matrix Human Services: Awarded \$25,000 for elder and vulnerable adult abuse, neglect and exploitation outreach and education efforts.
- Michigan Jewish Senior Life: Awarded \$25,000 to develop a center for elder abuse prevention at its agency.
- The Disability Network, Flint, Genesee County: Awarded \$25,000 to achieve positive change in at-risk elders and local elder abuse collaborations using evidence-based practices and motivational interviewing training skills.
- UPCAP Services, Inc.: Awarded \$25,000 to develop and implement an elder abuse, neglect and exploitation training program.
- Senior Neighbors, Inc.: Awarded \$24,809 to provide emergency housing and counseling for older adults living in abusive situations.
- Elder Law of Michigan: Awarded \$17,419 to create an elder abuse prevention portal for professionals, and provide guardianship and referral training to local partners.
- Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County: Awarded \$22,968 to develop a community-based interdisciplinary team to address elder abuse prevention locally.

The PREVNT initiative was made possible through state funding. The state estimates that as many as 90,000 older adults in Michigan are victims of elder abuse every year, with many of these crimes going unreported.

If someone suspects elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation, call Adult Protective Services at 855-444-3911. If someone is in immediate danger, call 911 or the local police.

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