

# EIGHT (8) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASED FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT IN ADDRESSING ELDER ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION

The following eight (8) recommendations for are intended to improve awareness of, prevention of, intervention in, and response to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

# **IMPROVING RESPONSE**

# **Recommendation 1: Support the Investigation and Prosecution of Elder Abuse Cases**

Support the investigation and prosecution of elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation cases by providing training and resources to federal, state, and local investigators and prosecutors.

# **Recommendation 2: Enhance Services to Elder Abuse Victims**

Support and protect elder abuse victims by improving identification of elder abuse and enhancing response and outreach to victims.

# **Recommendation 3: Develop a National Adult Protective Services System**

Develop a national APS system based upon standardized data collection and a core set of service provision standards and best practices.

#### **Recommendation 4: Develop a Federal Elder Justice Research Agenda**

Establish a coordinated research agenda across federal agencies to identify best practices for prevention of and intervention in elder abuse and elder financial exploitation.

#### IMPROVING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

#### **Recommendation 5: Develop a Broad-Based Public Awareness Campaign**

Develop a comprehensive, strategic, and broad-based national public awareness campaign, with clear and consistent messaging to raise awareness and understanding of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

#### **Recommendation 6: Cross-disciplinary Training on Elder Abuse**

Develop training to educate stakeholders across multiple sectors and disciplines on preventing, detecting, intervening in, and responding to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

#### **Recommendation 7: Combat Elder Financial Exploitation, including Abuse by Fiduciaries**

Prevent, detect, and respond to elder financial exploitation through federal enforcement activities, policy initiatives, coordination, oversight and education, and by collaborating with industry to enhance fraud detection and provide resources for victims.

# **Recommendation 8: Improve Screening for Dementia and Cognitive Capacity, Financial Capacity, and Financial Exploitation**

Improve the ability of APS and first responders to screen for diminished capacity, diminished financial capacity, and vulnerability to or victimization of financial exploitation.