

ELDER ABUSE HITS CLOSE TO HOME



Age Concern
Elder Abuse and Neglect
Prevention Services

AT A GLANCE

1 July 2015 – 30 June 2016

This information has been taken from the full report that covers the 20 Age Concern EANP services contracted by MSD



Serving the needs of older people

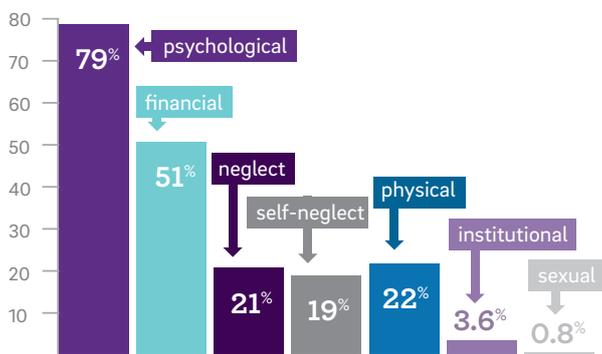
2121

referrals received where abuse was suspected.

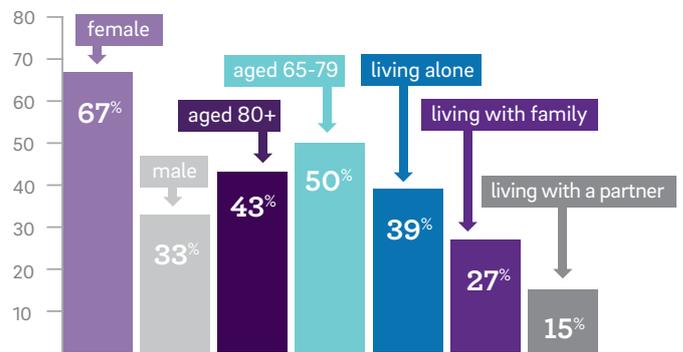
WHAT WE DO

We work closely with older people and their families to resolve issues of abuse. We respond to each referral, assessing the older person's situation then providing intervention and support.

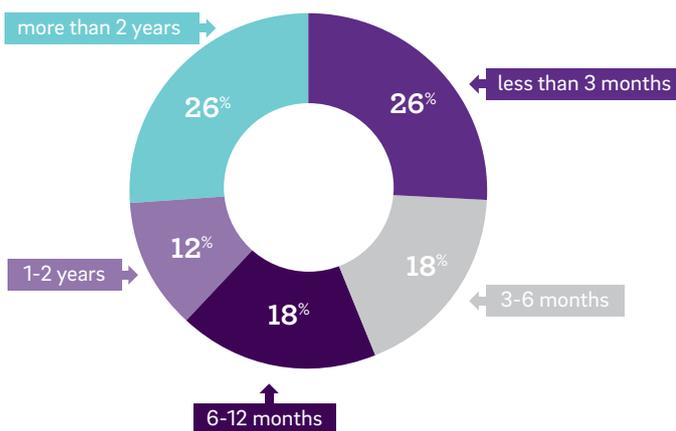
WHAT SORT OF ABUSE WAS FOUND?



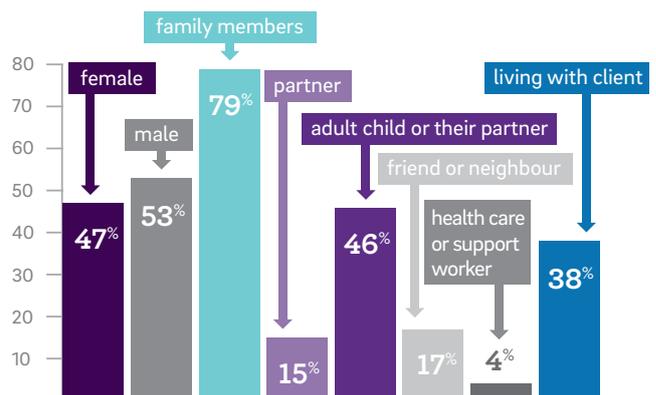
WHO ARE OUR CLIENTS?



HOW LONG HAS THE ABUSE BEEN GOING ON FOR?



WHO ARE THE ALLEGED ABUSERS?



Age Concern Elder Abuse and Neglect Prevention Services intervened in

1698

cases where elder abuse was identified.

OUTCOME

83% 83% of clients increased their wellbeing score, including safety from abuse.

0.3% Only 0.3% of clients had a decrease in their wellbeing score.



EXAMPLES OF WORKING WITH OTHERS TO END ABUSE

WORKING TOGETHER:

To resolve issues of abuse, EANP staff work closely with other agencies such as health, legal and financial services as well as the whanau, police, counselling services and others to ensure a holistic approach that meets the needs of the older person. Some examples of our collaborative approach are:

Working with the needs assessment service and home support agency to employ a paid carer for an older woman with dementia so that her husband could go grocery shopping and not have to tie her in her chair while he was away.

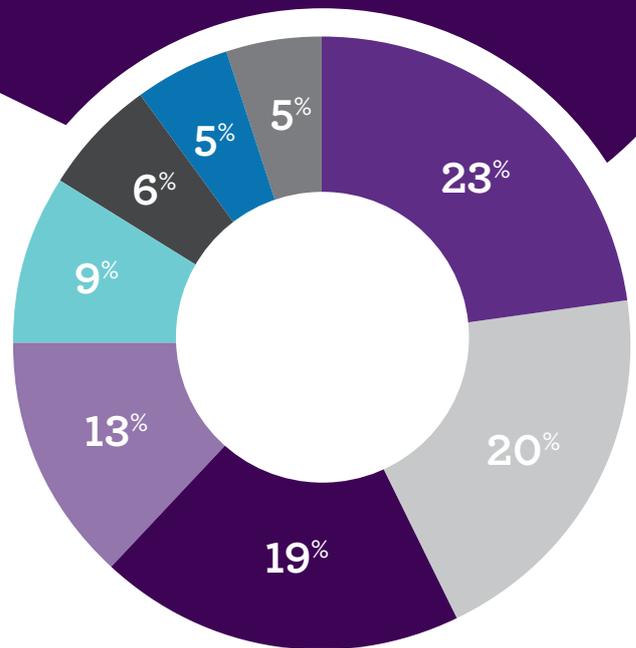
Working with Police to support an older man they found wandering in streets carrying cash and giving money to any "mates" who asked him. As he was afraid of forgetting his pin number, it was important to also work with his bank, iwi health provider and community police officer to increase his safety at his home and in his community.

Working with City Council, Public Health and Fire Services to support an older woman to clean her house so that she could return to live at home following hospitalisation for a broken leg as it transpired that her hoarding clutter had led to her fall.

Working with a counsellor, district nurses and community worker from Salvation Army to support an older man to find long lost relatives who could be supportive of him. Since being moved into a private boarding house following his discharge from a mental health institution years earlier, he had been repeatedly bullied and abused by other guests.

WE RECEIVED REFERRALS FROM

20% family members, **16%** from the older person themselves, **15%** from health workers, **18%** from Police, **10%** from a friend or neighbour, **8%** from home support agencies and rest homes.



CLIENT FACTORS THAT MAY HAVE INCREASED VULNERABILITY

- inadequate support
- cognitive impairment
- social isolation
- poor physical health
- financial stress/dependency
- poor mental health
- grief, loss, depression
- challenging behaviour, substance abuse

ELDER ABUSE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS



WHAT DID WE DO?

We provide education and awareness, promoting respectful practices and ways to reduce the incidence of elder abuse.

We held education sessions for: **9,521 PEOPLE**

122 sessions for community and government agencies

225 sessions for aged residential care workers

122 sessions in education institutions

53 sessions for home support agency workers

85 sessions for health professionals

75% More than three quarters of alleged abusers are family members

50% More than half of the alleged abusers are adult children or grandchildren

50 / 50 Alleged abusers are as likely to be female as male

Report compiled by
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We have held **1711** public awareness activities to raise awareness of elder abuse and neglect, such as:

106 social media posts 

178 TV and radio broadcasts 

224 articles in newspapers and magazines 

1203 network meetings, advertising campaigns, expos and displays 

As awareness increases, so does demand for intervention and education.

Seeing a display at her local library, a woman from the pensioner flats read information that made her realise that what her neighbour had been saying about his son's aggressive behaviour towards him may be 'elder abuse'.

She rang the EANP service, talked through her concerns and was given advice that the EANP service would follow up with. Her own learning made her realise that all the older folk in her community needed to know more, so she wrote a "letter to the editor" asking for an article in her local newspaper about elder abuse and include the phone number of the EANP service so others like her would be able to ring if they had questions too.