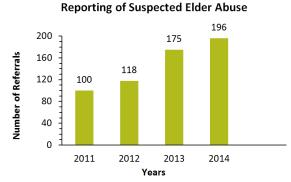
## **ABOUT ELDER ABUSE: DID YOU KNOW?**

- Elder Abuse is an under-recognized problem with consequences that can be devastating and even LIFE-THREATENING.
- Elder Abuse can occur ANYWHERE in the home, in nursing homes, or in other institutions.
- Elder Abuse includes PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL and SEXUAL ABUSE, CAREGIVER NEGLECT, and FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION, and 90% OF THE TIME IT COMES AT THE HANDS OF FAMILY MEMBERS.
- Elder Abuse affects senior citizens across **ALL** socioeconomic groups, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations and races.
- Senior citizens are abused at a disproportionately higher rate than younger adults; last year in Onondaga County, OVER 88% of all reported adult abuse victims were 60 years of age or older.
- A statewide prevalence study determined that since turning 60 years old, 14% of seniors

had fallen victim to elder abuse, and **ONLY 1 OF 35 INCIDENTS ARE REPORTED** in our region.

 In Onondaga County, 196 referrals regarding suspected Elder Abuse were handled by Adult Protective Services during 2014 (an increase of 12%). Knowing that only 1 in 35 Elder Abuse incidents is reported, over 6,500 incidents of Elder Abuse were NEVER reported in Onondaga County.



- Although New York State is now the only state
  without mandated reporting of elder abuse, many make VOLUNTARY reports to Adult
  Protective Services. Top referral sources are health care providers, concerned individuals,
  other governmental agencies, financial institutions, service providers, landlords and law
  enforcement.
- Someone YOU know may be suffering from abuse or maltreatment.
- YOU can help! If you suspect that someone you know is being abused, neglected or exploited, you can report it by calling ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES at (315) 435-2815.
   If the person is in immediate danger and needs help at once, call 911.
- If you have questions or want advocacy call VERA HOUSE at (315) 468-3260.





