

2023 RES-078
RECOGNIZING JUNE 15, 2023 AS WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY IN
DANE COUNTY

WHEREAS, older adults age 65 or older comprise 17% (1 in 7) of the total population in the USA and at least 10% of adults age 65 and older will experience some form of elder abuse in a given year, with some older adults simultaneously experiencing more than one type of abuse: physical, financial, emotional, neglect, and self-neglect; and

WHEREAS, older adults in our communities have the right to be protected under the law from physical, financial and emotional abuse as well as neglect and self-neglect; in 2022, there were more than 10,000 reports of abuse relating to elderly residents in the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, in Dane County, Wisconsin, 470 reports of elder abuse were investigated with many more instances going unreported; the issue of elder abuse prevention requires continual community awareness and education; and

WHEREAS, the Dane County Department of Human Services Adult Protective Services Unit investigates reports of elder abuse and neglect in the community and also works to expand and enhance public awareness to prevent elder abuse in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Dane County District Attorney's Office is charged with prosecuting cases of elder abuse and neglect as well as providing advocacy and assistance with claims for restitution; and

WHEREAS, the Dane County Sheriff's Office and local law enforcement agencies provide safety for victims, investigate allegations, and arrest alleged offenders of elder abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, all Dane County residents should be aware of the signs of elder abuse and be educated about prevention efforts as all members of the community, especially those most vulnerable, should be able to live safe and secure lives without fear of neglect, pain or exploitation; elder abuse and neglect should not be ignored nor tolerated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes June 15, 2023 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Dane County.

Patrick Miles, Chair
Dane County Board of Supervisor

Signed and sealed before me this
_____ day of _____, 2023.

Scott McDonell,
Dane County Clerk