

2024 RES-044
RECOGNIZING JUNE 15, 2024 AS WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY
IN DANE COUNTY

WHEREAS, older adults age 65 or older comprise 18% (1 in 7) of the total population in the USA, 25% of the total population in Wisconsin, and 15% of the total population in Dane County; and

WHEREAS, 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, in 2023, there were more than 10,000 reports of abuse relating to elderly residents in the State of Wisconsin, and 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; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, in Dane County, Wisconsin, 442 reports of elder abuse were investigated but many situations relating to vulnerable adults still remain unreported; 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 and education in order 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, elder abuse and neglect cannot be ignored nor tolerated, and all residents of Dane County should be aware of the signs of elder abuse and educated on measures to prevent abuse, 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes June 15, 2024 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 _____, 2024.

Scott McDonell, Dane County Clerk