



**ELDER
RIGHTS
PROJECT**
civil legal aid for victims

News Release
For Immediate Release
June 13, 2019

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ERP Marks World Elder Abuse Awareness Day with Events Statewide

Milwaukee--The Elder Rights Project (ERP) is hosting outreach presentations and participating in community discussions throughout the state leading up to World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, which lands on Saturday, June 15.

ERP, a joint collaboration of Legal Action of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Judicare, helps victims of crime who are age 60 and over with the civil legal needs that result from their victimization. The demand for services continues to climb: ERP lawyers have helped 643 clients just this year alone, with a total of 2,467 clients served since the project launched in 2016. The legal problems that result from elder abuse can be severe. In addition to finding themselves facing eviction or foreclosure as a result of the crimes committed against them, victims often need help in obtaining injunctions against their abusers, and working to recoup money, property or other assets that were stolen by abusers through exploitation or identity theft.

Every year, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day provides advocates with an important opportunity to educate the community on how to look for signs of elder abuse.

“Elder abuse victims will often start to become isolated by their abusers and will stop participating in family and social functions. They may have bruises, come across as emotionally distant, or both. They may start to fall behind on bills, and not even have a couple of dollars on them for spending money,” said ERP Project Director Nicole Zimmer. “Sometimes, just a friendly encouraging voice can be enough to convince a victim to come forward and find the legal help they need.”

To mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, ERP staff will participate in the following events:

- ✓ **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
Elder Abuse Awareness: Schemes and Scams Training
Thursday, June 13
4:30 p.m.
Marathon County Public Library—Wausau Headquarters
300 North First Street, Wausau**

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Established in 1968, Legal Action of Wisconsin (Legal Action) is a non-profit law firm that ensures equal justice. With offices in six cities, Legal Action serves 39 southern Wisconsin counties. The Elder Rights Project provides free civil legal services to victims of elder abuse, helping victims become safe and independent, stabilize their lives, and meet their emotional and physical needs by resolving their critical civil legal problems. For more information, visit www.legalaction.org.



- ✓ **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
Know Your Rights Workshop
Hosted by the Elder Rights Project & Center for Veterans Issues
Saturday, June 15
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Veteran's Manor
2900 St. Anthony Dr., Green Bay**

Potential clients are encouraged to call the statewide toll-free Elder Abuse Intake Line at 844-614-5468.

Journalists interested in interviewing an ERP attorney about elder abuse should contact Andrea Gage-Michaels at 920-212-5269.

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