

THE PEER SUPPORT NETWORK



INFORMATION

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
AND MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES,
CONTACT;

Elder Abuse Prevention Unit

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1300 651 192



Elder Abuse
Prevention Unit

Features of the
Multidisciplinary Peer
Support Network
for elder abuse:

Free membership

Quarterly newsletters

Free teleconferences

**Priority contacts by EAPU workers
when visiting your region.**

Occasional information updates.

**An opportunity to network
with other remote workers**

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY

Peer Support Network



For Remote and
Isolated Workers who
may encounter abuse
of older people

 **Lifeline**
Community Care Queensland

Funded by

 **Queensland Government**
Department of Communities

Elder Abuse Prevention Unit

The Peer Support Network aims to link rural and remote workers with expertise, options and information through EAPU networks and contacts. Members will have access to websites, information, news of upcoming events and regular teleconferences with guest speakers. PSN members are often the first point of contact when EAPU workers visit Regional Queensland.

Peer Support Network

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Definition of Elder Abuse

Any act, occurring within a relationship **where there is an implication of trust**, which results in harm to an older person. (ANPEA 1999).

Abuse may be psychological, physical, financial, social, sexual or neglectful, or a combination of the abuse types.

Elder abuse can be difficult to address as there are often complex issues involved such as dependency, dementia, family dynamics, legal and financial matters.

EAPU welcomes calls on the Helpline (1 300 651 192) from Peer Support Network members to discuss their concerns about older people in their communities. One of our roles is to be first port of call for service providers dealing with suspected elder abuse.

At EAPU we have access to the extensive Lifeline database and can assist with planning a course of action for workers with clients experiencing elder abuse.

Remote Area Challenges

It is accepted that it is often more difficult for rural and remote workers to access specialist services due to limited time, resources and personnel.

Similarly it can be difficult for rural and remote workers to form networks for dealing with elder abuse.

A benefit of the Peer Support Network

Formal and informal networks are often an efficient means for workers to quickly tap into the information, expertise and support that they require. The EAPU Peer Support Network links service providers in remote and rural areas with experts in the field of elder abuse.

The Elder Abuse Prevention Unit is funded by the Department of Communities and is part of the Older Persons' Programs run by Lifeline Community Care, Brisbane.

