

# Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Conference

MINNESOTA  
ELDER JUSTICE  
CENTER

## PRESENTED BY:

Minnesota Elder Justice Center and its Center Partners

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

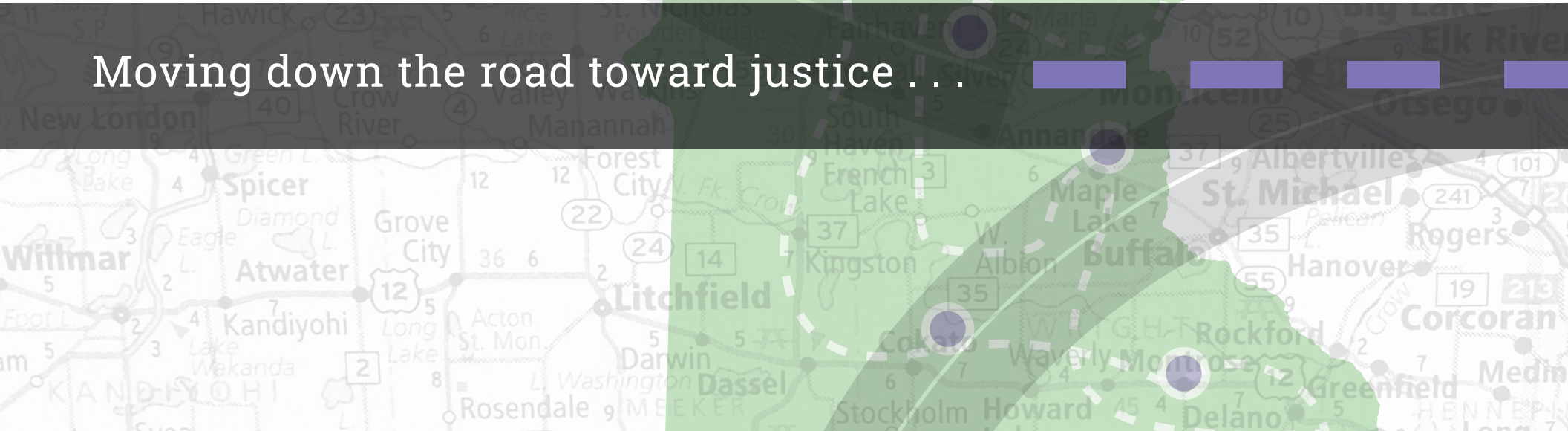
8:00am-4:00pm

University of Minnesota

St. Paul Campus

Continuing Education and Conference Center

Moving down the road toward justice ...



# Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

In 2014, the National Center on Elder Abuse released **The Elder Justice Roadmap**, a document designed to identify priorities critical to understanding and reducing elder abuse and to promoting health, independence and justice for older adults.

**The Roadmap** is a strategic planning resource by the field, for the field and served as a guide for planning this event. The report is available on the Minnesota Elder Justice Center's website.

## Background

### ABOUT MINNESOTA WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

The goal of this year's conference is to elevate the issue of elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation and provide education on best practices for prevention and response.

The conference is open to 400 participants, and is directed towards professionals who work with adults who are victims of, or may be at risk of, elder abuse. This includes adult protection services, state agencies, non-profits organizations, attorneys, social workers, representatives from the criminal justice system, law enforcement, long-term care providers, and more.

### HISTORY

Each June, the Minnesota Elder Justice Center and its Center Partners sponsor a full-day professional education conference in conjunction with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD). The day is in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action which recognizes the significance of elder abuse as a growing social and financial concern, a public health matter, and a human rights issue. This year marks the 11th anniversary of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in the United States and the 10th annual event in Minnesota.

### ABOUT THE MINNESOTA ELDER JUSTICE CENTER

The Minnesota Elder Justice Center works to mobilize communities to prevent and alleviate abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of elders and vulnerable adults. The organization provides statewide support, services and education to victims, concerned caregivers and loved ones, and professionals working with older or vulnerable adults.

Our areas of focus are:

- Support, advocacy and information to/for older victims of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation
- Professional education and public awareness
- Public policy and systems change



## Conference Schedule

8:00-8:30 am	Registration, Exhibits, Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 9:00 am	Welcome & Opening Session
9:00 - 10:00 am	Keynote Speaker: Ashton Applewhite, <i>Ageism and Elder Abuse</i>
10:00 - 10:15 am	Break/Exhibits
10:15 - 11:30 am	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
11:30 am -12:45 pm	Lunch and Learns/Exhibits
12:45 - 2:15 pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
2:15 - 2:30 pm	Break/Exhibits
2:30 - 4:00 pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions

### REGISTRATION FEES

**\$35.00** includes continental breakfast, lunch, coffee service. Refunds will not be provided for any cancellations. If you register and are unable to attend, you may transfer your registration to a new attendee. Register for the conference online at [elderjusticemn.org](http://elderjusticemn.org).

### SCHOLARSHIPS

There are a limited number of scholarships available. Please contact Amanda Vickstrom at [amanda.vickstrom@elderjusticemn.org](mailto:amanda.vickstrom@elderjusticemn.org) for more information.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

CLE, POST and SW CEUs will be available.

## Keynote Speaker Ashton Applewhite



Author and activist Ashton Applewhite has been recognized by the *New York Times*, *National Public Radio*, and the *American Society on Aging* as an expert on ageism. In 2015 she was included in a list of 100 inspiring women—along with Aung San Suu Kyi, Angelina Jolie, Elizabeth Warren, Germaine Greer, Naomi Klein, and other remarkable activists—who are committed to social change. Ashton's work is a call to wake up to the ageism in and around us, embrace a more nuanced and accurate view of growing

older, and push back against the forces that frame it as decline. She is the author of ***This Chair Rocks: A Manifesto Against Ageism, and is the voice of Yo, Is This Ageist?***

**“All practitioners working with older adults need to be informed about the pernicious influences of ageism. Nobody does this better than Ashton Applewhite. Her thinking is deep, her passion infectious, and her cogent message is spot on: we urgently need to have a national conversation about ageism to raise awareness about it and to stop it.”**

— Risa Breckman, LCSW, Executive Director, NYC Elder Abuse Center

### ABOUT CENTER PARTNERS

Center Partners includes professionals from adult protection agencies, public advocacy organizations, elder and disability organizations, health care providers, law enforcement, city and county attorneys, private attorneys, and other government organizations. Through monthly meetings and focused working groups, Center Partners provides a regular forum where front line, supervisory, and policy specialists in vulnerable adult protection meet to:

- Conduct and cooperate in professional education and public awareness efforts.
- Identify service gaps in the protection of vulnerable adults;
- Identify gaps and flaws in the underlying public policies; and
- Educate public officials about current and emerging issues through presentations/publications

## Session Track 1

# Advocacy

## Empowering Through Advocacy: Agency Collaboration on Behalf of Vulnerable Adults

“It takes a village” is a statement many vulnerable adults as well as professionals can relate to, especially when an investigation or individual circumstances are complicated. Panel participants will share information about their agencies, empowerment strategies and how they collaborate to develop team approaches to ensure the best information, safety and supports are available to the adults they serve. Resources, case examples and tips provided.

**PRESENTERS:** Lanette Ayers, Social Services Supervisor, Blue Earth County, Debbie Bauleke, Senior Outreach Specialist, Minnesota Valley Area Agency on Aging (MNRAAA), Sandra Newbauer, Regional Ombudsman, Office of Ombudsman for Long Term Care, Kristie Pittmann, APS Worker, Blue Earth County, Robin Thompson, Contact Center and Community Outreach Coordinator, MNRAAA, Tim Wendler, Deputy Sheriff, Adult/Child Protection Unit, Blue Earth County

when, does entitlement cross the line to financial exploitation? Participants will have the opportunity to share realities from the field, and explore practical implications for recognizing, reporting, and intervening in financial exploitation situations.

**PRESENTER:** Marlene S. Stum, Ph.D., Professor, Family Economics & Gerontology, University of Minnesota

## Intimate Partner Violence in Later Life

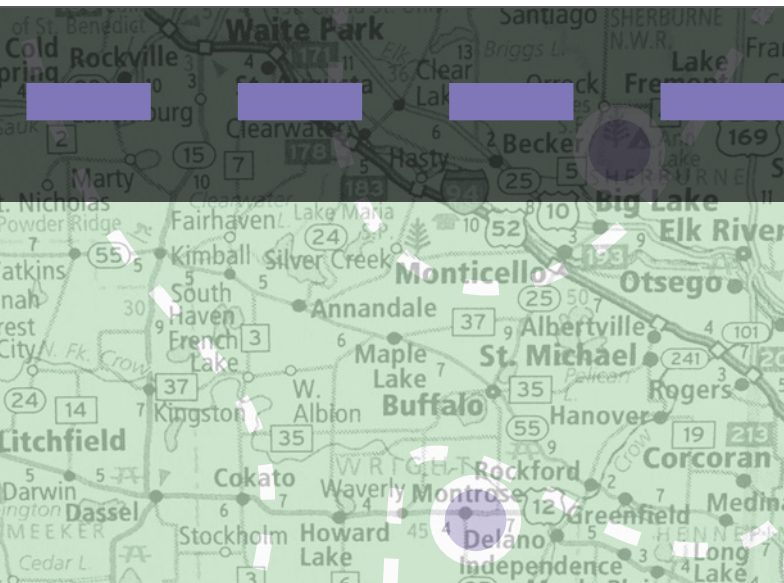
This workshop will use a combination of lecture, video, and interactive exercises to enhance participants understanding of the dynamics of intimate partner violence in later life. Participants will discuss the frameworks for approaching cases and identify methods for responding collaboratively to provide comprehensive services to older survivors of domestic violence. As a result of this workshop participants will:

- Understand some of the unique issues that exist for older survivors of intimate partner violence in later life
- Explore how a trauma aware response can assist service providers understand the issue and shape our response to survivors who need help
- Identify methods for responding collaboratively to provide comprehensive services to older survivors of intimate partner violence

**PRESENTER:** Ann Turner, Elder Victims Services & Advocacy Coordinator, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL), A project of End Domestic Abuse WI

## When it's Family: Entitlement and Elder Financial Exploitation

This session focuses on the role of “entitlement” in elder financial exploitation when a family member is the perpetrator. Families offer long complex histories of sharing and exchanging resources, resulting in expectations and obligations between parents, adult children, and siblings across the life course. If, and





## A map of Michigan with two purple circles highlighting the locations of Detroit and Grand Rapids. The map shows major roads, lakes, and other cities. Detroit is located in the southeast, and Grand Rapids is located in the west. The map also shows the Great Lakes and the Detroit River.

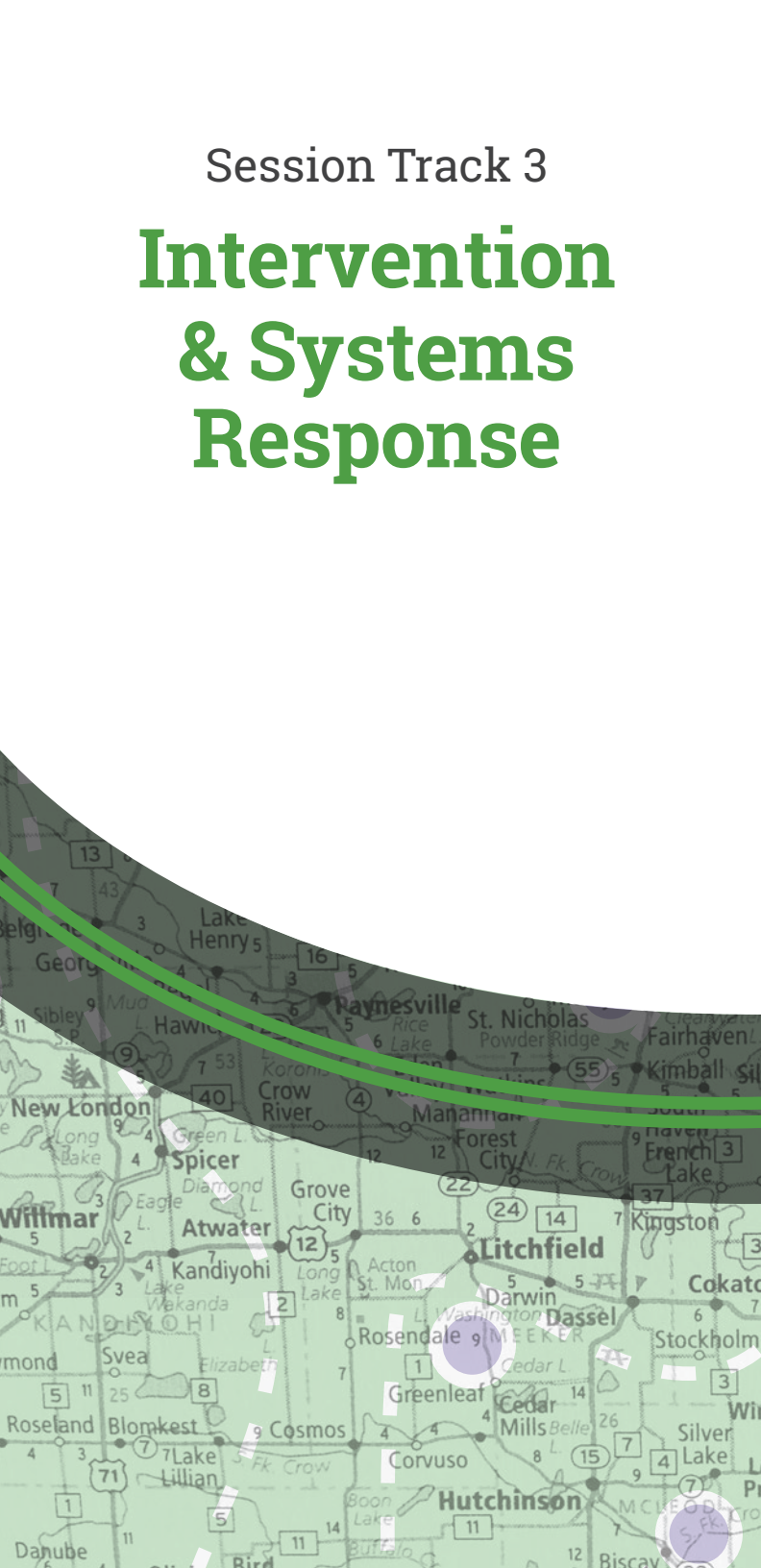
There are many ways to serve as a proxy, substitute or supportive decision maker for another. Whether a person has specific fiduciary duties or is providing assistance to another in an informal manner (or anything in-between); it's helpful to understand the similarities and differences between various roles. This session will explore practical and legal distinctions between roles like Power of Attorney, Trustee, Conservator, Representative Payee, and other formal and informal proxy modes.

# Drug Diversion: Working Together to Empower and Support Victims

**PRESENTERS:** Jen Hovland, Victim Services Coordinator, Kandiyohi County Attorney's Office, Karin Tomervik, Daughter of nursing home resident and "named crime victim" of drug diversion crime, Ann Holme, Regional Ombudsman for Long-Term Care, Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care

This session will review physical findings, such as bruising and pressure sores, that are often associated with aging and illness. See examples and learn what physical findings are associated with elder abuse and which physical findings may be mistaken for being signs of elder abuse. The presenter will also discuss if and how health care providers should screen for elder abuse or self-neglect.

**PRESENTER:** Lawrence J. Kerzner MD, FACP, AGSF,  
Director, Geriatric Medicine Division, Hennepin County  
Medical Center



## Session Track 3

# Intervention & Systems Response

## Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDT) in Action: The Hows and Whys of Building a Successful MDT

Have an MDT? Thinking about starting one? Come hear from other MDTs on what it takes to support a strong team, and how the team benefits victims and people working with them. This session will provide you with the tools to create a team in your county, or the skills to enhance your existing team. Representatives from Nobles and Carver Counties MDTs will discuss how they've successfully coordinated their MDTs.

**PRESENTERS:** Law Enforcement, Prosecution and APS members of the Nobles County Multi-Disciplinary Team and Carver County Multi-Disciplinary Team

## Best Practices for Use of Guardianship and Other Decision Making Options

Guardianship is often the first option considered when a person has cognitive or intellectual impairments; however, in many situations it may be overly restrictive. This session will discuss the benefits and limitations of guardianship as well as exploration of decision making options such as: advance directives, supported

decision-making, care management within a framework of local and national best practice suggestions.

**PRESENTERS:** Deborah Tulloch LSW, Washington County Community Social Services Supervisor and Anita Raymond, LISW, CMC, Program Manager Volunteers of America - Minnesota

## Investigating Abuse in Facilities: Responses and Best Practices

Learn more about the entire investigation process a facility or other agencies follow when abuse, neglect and exploitation of individuals living in long-term care settings is suspected or reported. Barriers to reporting and investigating abuse will be reviewed. The presenters will also share examples of best practices that facilities can implement to prevent abuse and, ways to train staff to prevent and recognize abuse.

**PRESENTERS:** Kris Lohrke, Director, Office of Health Facility Complaints (OHFC) and Natasha Merz, J.D., Deputy Ombudsman, Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care

## Session Track 4

# Policy & Law

### Annual Training for Mandated Reporters

This training meets the requirement for Vulnerable Adults Mandated Training. Mandated reporters are professionals or professional's delegate identified by law who must make a report if they have reason to believe that the abuse, neglect or financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult has occurred. The session will provide understanding on the definitions of vulnerable adult maltreatment, the requirements of mandated reporters, and recent changes to the process of reporting suspected maltreatment.

**PRESENTERS:** Melissa Vongsy, LSW, Adult Protection Resource Specialist, Minnesota Department of Human Services and Kelli Klein, Adult Protection Resource Specialist, Minnesota Department of Human Services

### Communication and Concerns when Capacity is Questioned

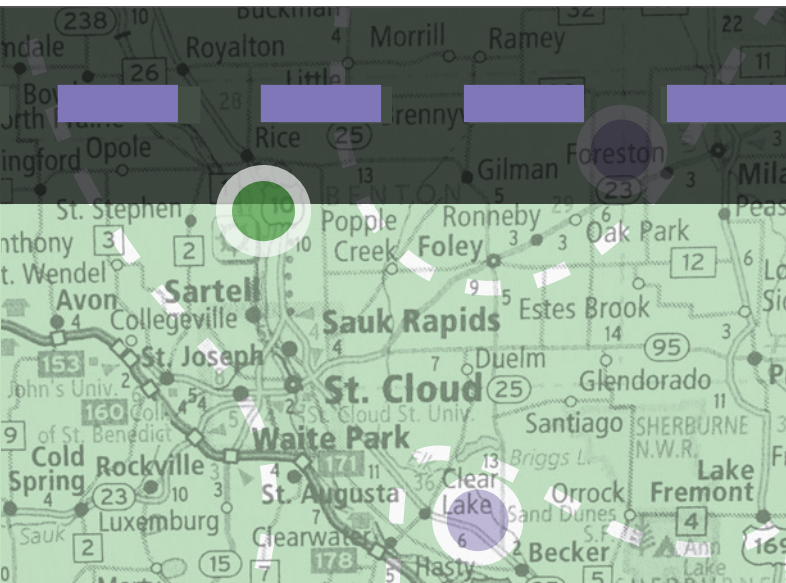
Dementia causes many challenges - including issues around capacity. When concerns arise, regardless of setting, it is often difficult to know how to include the person with the disease in that conversation. This session will explore how to best engage a person with dementia in that conversation as well as the legal side of capacity.

**PRESENTERS:** Debbie Richman, BS, ACC, Vice President, Education and Outreach, Alzheimer's Association MN-ND and Laura Zdychnec, Attorney at Law, Long, Reher, Hanson & Price, P.A.

### Criminal Case Review – Investigating and Prosecuting Elder Abuse

This panel will explore Financial Exploitation from the perspective of the investigators and prosecutors tasked with pursuing these criminal cases. Participants will gain familiarity with strategies and processes used in investigating and charging, and will learn about the prosecutors' roles in successful case resolution.

**PRESENTERS:** Tracy Allen, Hennepin County Attorney's Office, Susan Crumb, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney, Thom Haines, Assistant Carver County Attorney, Deb Hilstrom, Assistant Anoka County Attorney, and Tara Patet, Supervising Attorney, Office of the St. Paul City Attorney





# Sponsors

## DIAMOND

Department of Safety Office of Justice Programs

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## SILVER

Alzheimer's Association Minnesota-North Dakota  
Scheller Legal Solutions, LLC  
Volunteers of America National Services

## BRONZE

Great River Organic Milling, Fountain City, WI  
Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging



# More Information

## JANE OCHRYMOWYCZ AWARD FOR ADVOCACY

On December 30, 2011, the Minnesota elder justice community lost a legendary advocate, Jane Ochrymowycz. Jane's legislative advocacy and biography reflect major milestones in vulnerable adult act reform. She was an active participant in many World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events. The purpose of this award is to recognize Minnesotans for their outstanding advocacy for vulnerable adults.

We are accepting calls for nominations for the award until April 25. Nomination details and forms are available at [elderjusticemn.org](http://elderjusticemn.org).

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Co-chair:** Amanda Vickstrom, *Executive Director, Minnesota Elder Justice Center*  
**Co-chair:** Sandi Lubrant, *Minnesota Elder Justice Center, Board of Directors*  
Barb Doherty, *Center Partner*  
Emily Justman, *Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging*  
Kelli Klein, *Minnesota Department of Human Services*  
Marit Peterson, *Program Director, Minnesota Elder Justice Center*  
Marlene Stum, *PhD, University of Minnesota*  
Melissa Vongsy, *Minnesota Department of Human Services*



## HANDOUTS – GOING GREEN

We will provide materials for breakout sessions online prior to the conference. Registered conference attendees are encouraged to print those materials or download the files to their laptop or mobile device and use them electronically during the sessions. Complimentary wireless Internet access will be available at the conference. Handouts will also be available for a limited time after conference.

## THE MINNESOTA ELDER JUSTICE CENTER IS MOVING!

As of April 1, 2016 you can reach us at:

Minnesota Elder Justice Center  
2610 University Avenue, Suite 530  
St. Paul, MN 55114  
[www.elderjusticemn.org](http://www.elderjusticemn.org)

## SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, contact Amanda Vickstrom at [amanda.vickstrom@elderjusticemn.org](mailto:amanda.vickstrom@elderjusticemn.org).

## EXHIBITORS

Exhibitor opportunities are still available. For more information, contact Marlene Stum at [mstum@umn.edu](mailto:mstum@umn.edu).