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Our Initiatives for Senior Citizens

- Crime Prevention
- Senior Citizen Care System
- Partnership with Veterans Administration
- Senior Citizen Abuse



Crime Prevention for Senior Citizens

Develop a Crime Prevention Attitude

- Stay Alert! – Aware of your surroundings
- Stand Tall! – Walk Confidently
- Trust Your Instincts!



Crime Prevention for Senior Citizens

Safety at Home

- Sign up for direct deposit
- Don't be misled in believing con artists
- Be suspicious of phone solicitors



Crime Prevention for Senior Citizens

If You are a Victim of a Crime

- Do not resist
- Never pursue your attacker
- Call the Police – Dial 9-1-1
- Report Crime!



Crime Prevention for Senior Citizens

Protect Your Income

- Be sure the person handling your money can be trusted.
- Take the greatest care when signing any loan contracts.
- Understand completely what you are getting into.
- Don't sign anything if you are not confident.



Crime Prevention for Senior Citizens

Five Common Scams

- Sweepstakes/Lottery – Never wire someone money you do not know.
- Medicare – They will never call to ask for sensitive personal financial information.
- Bereavement Scams – If uncertain on owing a debt, ask for written confirmation.
- Deceptive Professionals – Find trusted professionals.
- Investment/Work at Home Opportunities – Beware of offers that seem too good to be true.



Senior Citizen Care Program

What is it?

A free service offered to persons that need periodic contact to ensure their safety and security. The contact can be made daily or just on week days, depending on the needs of the citizen.



Senior Citizen Care Program

- Each day between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. an automated computer telephone call is generated to check on the status of those citizens registered in the program.
- No assistance needed, citizen presses 6.
- Assistance needed, citizen presses 9 and officer responds.



Senior Citizen Care Program

No answer or citizen hangs up?

- The system will notify our Communications Center as an officer will be dispatched.
- Citizens have to notify if they will not be at home during the automated phone call time.



Senior Citizen Care Program

Who is eligible?

- City residents with life impairing disabilities
- Those without local contacts to check on their welfare
- Home-bound citizens
- Call our Communications Bureau at 271-5333 for more information or to sign up



Partnership with Veterans Administration

- Assist veterans by providing resources and pointing them in the right direction.
- We have taken some to VA Clinic, gone to Court with some, and assisted in Court ordered treatment.
- Established contacts with organizations and government agencies enhancing our ability to assist these Veterans.



Partnership with Veterans Administration

- Locating housing for veterans at Veterans House on Pendleton Street and other Section 8 voucher programs that are available through the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- For long term care and other issues, partner with Dorn VA Hospital in Columbia.
- Working in construction phase of the Peace House on Augusta Street providing short term housing for families of veterans receiving care through Roger C. Peace.



Senior Citizen Abuse

Elder Abuse Defined:

- The intentional or neglectful acts by a caregiver or “trusted” individual that lead to, or may lead to, harm of a vulnerable adult.
- Nationwide statistics show that 1 in 10 senior citizens may experience some type of abuse.



Senior Citizen Abuse

Types of Abuse

- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual
- Exploitation
- Neglect
- Abandonment



Senior Citizen Abuse

- We respond and investigate any and all incidents relative to the abuse and neglect of senior citizens.
- We provide personal protection presentations to Senior Citizen groups, perform residential surveys, and refer our elderly to resources through our Crime Prevention Officer.
- We currently investigate all crimes against persons through our C.A.P.S. Unit in Criminal Investigations. A current analysis is being conducted regarding the possibility of adding an additional detective that will solely investigate elder abuse and neglect.



Conclusion – Our Commitment

- We recognize the importance of our senior citizens and the vital role you play in the community. We remember this in our daily service through our motto of “Serving, Protecting, and Caring”.
- We will continue to listen, intervene, and educate our Senior Citizens as we strive to enhance the quality of life for everyone.



Thank You!

