

National Center on Elder Abuse

NCEA E-NEWS

In This Issue...

*Elder Abuse
Awareness Quilt
Competition...1*

*Updates to CANE and
NCEA Web Sites...2*

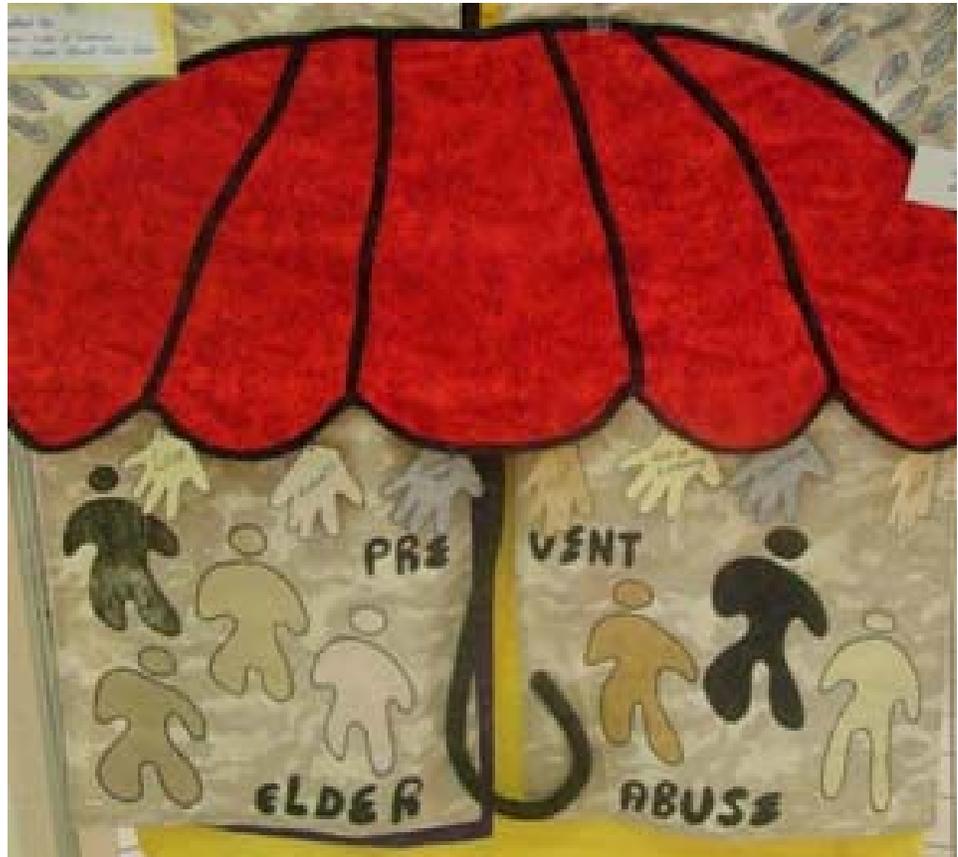
*New APS Legal
Charts Online...4*

*Elder Rights
Advocacy Hall of
Fame...5*

*Funding
Opportunities...5*

*Federal Legislative
Updates...6*

*Calendar of
Events...8*



Diversity is the theme of this quilt. 1

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Quilt Show Bridges Generations, Draws upon North Carolina Community Networks

One night last December, Sara Munzer and her colleagues who serve on the Violence in Aging Council (VIAC) of Pitt County, North Carolina were brainstorming ideas for commemorating the upcoming World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. They were looking for an idea that was unique, creative, and eye catching, and likely to make a lasting impression on members of the community.

(Continued on page 3)

Technology Updates: CANE and NCEA Web Sites

Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly (CANE) Unveils Redesigned Web Site to Enhance Research Initiatives, Promote Public Awareness

In June, the [Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly \(CANE\)](#), based at the University of Delaware, unveiled its newly designed web site. The conversion involved not only adopting a “new look” but a completely new search engine intended to aid web users seeking research and scholarly information on elder abuse. The new design is also intended to aid aging services and other professionals in their mission to promote elder abuse awareness.

The new search engine allows for a simple keyword search in addition to more advanced search options, including searching by author, words or phrases from the title or abstract, journal title, and publication year. The database identifies nearly 6,000 articles, reports, online resources, videos, and public awareness materials on the topic of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, and related issues (such as ageism, domestic violence, and conditions that impact elder mistreatment).

The conversion of the CANE database is intended to assist researchers, policy planners, and advocates in quickly identifying peer-reviewed elder abuse literature; students seeking general information on elder abuse; practitioners seeking to enhance knowledge and skills; and elders and family members addressing personal concerns.

CANE will also be a valuable tool for stakeholders promoting elder abuse public awareness, as it is currently incorporating descriptions of all materials collected by the NCEA for a centralized public awareness inventory. During the recent collection efforts, approximately 500 public awareness materials (ranging from stand alone brochures to comprehensive, regional campaigns) were identified. Descriptions of each item will be entered into the CANE database, and will be easily identified through a keyword search using the term “public awareness” (without the quotes).

To access the CANE website, [click here](#). [Feedback and questions](#) are welcomed.

The University of Delaware is the NCEA grantee responsible for public awareness and co-management activities.

NCEA Web Site Posts New Publications Database

The NCEA recently created a [publications database](#) to allow easy access to its web-based library. NCEA publications can now be searched by selecting a topic (such as “neglect” or “intervention”) from a subject list.

Catalogued publications, all available online, were created for the NCEA by various organizations affiliated with the Center throughout the past several decades. Most of the materials were created by affiliates in their roles as NCEA grantees. Several publications funded through other sources are included because of their direct relevance to the work of elder abuse prevention. New publications will be added to the archive as they become available. To access the new publications database, [click here](#).

WEAAD Quilt Show (continued from front page)

Ms. Munzer, the program administrator of North Carolina's first violence in later life program, had recalled the impact of the AIDS and breast cancer awareness quilting projects that promoted public attention and education. An amateur quilter herself, she suggested a quilt competition, knowing how visually compelling these shows can be. The group backed the idea, theorizing that such a display could be striking enough to overcome the natural resistance to recognizing violence issues, a resistance compounded by ageism when considering elder abuse.

"We didn't know if this was going to fly, and kept pursuing it step by step," said Ms. Munzer. The coalition's first anxiety was whether or not there would be any quilts created, but the group was proactive in recruiting participants. To enlist elders themselves in the effort, Annette Eubanks, regional long-term care ombudsman and VIAC representative, decided to talk about the contest at senior centers, since many sponsor quilting groups. To the delight of the coalition, this strategy was effective in soliciting both group entries and those of lifelong quilters. In addition, VIAC members reached out to local quilters' guilds, advertised through local print, television, and radio media, and tapped into the network of a longstanding ally, East Carolina University (ECU).

In February, they began to receive confirmation that various groups would participate. To encourage interest, the committee decided not to stipulate dimension restrictions but opened the competition to all types. As a result, there was great variety not only among themes presented but also among shapes and sizes of entered pieces. In all, ten quilts were entered into the competition, ranging from a trio of 9x9 inch wall hangings to full size comforters. One quilt was donated to the project after the competition ended. The collection was eclectic, highlighting traditional motifs incorporating time-honored patterns and more contemporary looks.

First prize went to Martin County Quilters for "Elder Abuse Hurts – Let's Stop the Hurting," a boldly patterned full size quilt featuring a blend of both traditional and modern elements: a realistic representation of an older woman's thoughtful face bordered by several frames of diamond and arrow patches. Second place was awarded to the Hertford County Senior Center for their brightly stylized "Prevent Elder Abuse," with a purple hand cupping a red heart, centered on a bright green field surrounded by smaller and face-like hearts. Third prize was awarded to Madeline Roy, a retired Greenville resident, for her poignant depiction of an older couple seated arm-in-arm on a park bench with their dog, facing away from viewers, simply entitled, "Prevent Elderly Abuse – Love – Shelter - Help." Some quilts were inspired by biblical verse, others reflected diversity, and many incorporated colors and symbols traditionally associated with abuse prevention (such as the color purple, and hearts and hands). Both television and newspaper journalists chronicled the exhibit, artists, volunteers, and viewers who voted for their favorites. (To view the North Carolina's Daily Reflector photo gallery, [click here](#).)

Along the way, Ms. Munzer noted that there were many obstacles to overcome, not the least of which was figuring out how to mount the exhibit. The solution came from a sister project of the Family Violence Program of Pitt County (FVP), the agency that houses her own program. FVP also sponsors a thrift store and resale shop, and the event planners borrowed the clothing racks in order to drape the entries, using skirt hangers to suspend the pieces. The dramatic display at the Greenville Mall on June 13th drew in hundreds of curious shoppers, many of whom voted. Volunteers noted that many voters also picked up available elder abuse literature and stickers, and commented that the quilts were more successful in generating interest than previous literature display tables had been.

(Continued on page 4)

WEAAD Quilt Show (Continued from page 3)

The event was not only the culmination of six months of planning and stitching, but of nearly eight years of coalition building. When Ms. Munzer, a 25 year veteran of aging services, became the coordinator of the violence in later life program, part of her mission was to establish a multidisciplinary team of stakeholders from the region. VIAC includes approximately a dozen representatives from APS, law enforcement, health care, the legal system, ombudsmen, etc., who meet monthly. Although they occasionally conference cases, their primary goal is to raise public and professional awareness. Since its inception in 2000, the team has sponsored five conferences addressing violence in later life, among other initiatives.

“I was impressed with the work of the coalition, and the volunteers, and we were able to get the general community involved. What really impressed me is that people were not only involved, but were genuinely excited and enthusiastic about it. To me, this had more an impact on the community at large, including seniors, than the others. By combining the efforts of professionals, students, seniors, and others, this really involved the community at all levels.”

As mentioned above, students from the East Carolina University (ECU) played a valuable role in supporting the competition. An example of collaboration at its best, the ECU community has been actively involved in abuse in later life projects for years, with dozens of students serving program internships. Ms. Munzer serves on the board of the ECU Service Learning Center. Interns involved in the quilt competition include Danyelle Lang, Christian Adams, Penny Adams, Michelle Edenbeck, Mathew McGough, and Jessie Staton. As a surprise to the event planners, the students created their own quilt to commemorate World Day and the competition. They also assisted with displaying quilts and staffing the voting tables.

In addition to working with VIAC to promote elder abuse awareness, Ms. Munzer has delivered training across the state as other regions continue to model Pitt County’s abuse in later life program. FVP is a private non-profit agency addressing the needs of victims of domestic violence (DV), and providing shelter and counseling services to clients of all ages.

The impact of the quilt show will not stop with the one day display. Most of the pieces have been donated to the cause, and plans are developing to use them as backdrops for presentations, conferences, and other consciousness-raising activities throughout the state. Additional possibilities for display may be forthcoming. Feedback has been overwhelming, with many community members asking if the competition will become an annual event. According to Ms. Munzer, VIAC hasn’t made that decision yet, though she admits that the contest was very rewarding and would relish the opportunity to apply the “lessons learned” in the future. She summed up the experience succinctly: “This is one of the best projects I have ever been involved with.”

For more information on the quilt show, contact [Sara Munzer](#). For more on FVP, [click here](#).

New and Updated APS Legal Charts Online

The ABA Commission on Law and Aging has prepared new and updated APS legal charts for the NCEA. New charts address the following topics: mandatory training; multidisciplinary teams; reporting/referrals to law enforcement; immunity for good faith reporting; prohibitions of retaliation against reporters of suspected elder abuse; and undue influence. Updated charts address: types of abuse; and threshold eligibility criteria. The charts are accessible from both the [ABA Commission’s elder abuse web page](#) or through the [NCEA web site](#) .

Nominations for the Elder Rights Advocacy Hall of Fame

The National Association of Legal Services Developers (NALSD) Elder Rights Advocacy Hall of Fame, established in 2007, is currently accepting nominations for its 2008 induction. Advocates may be nominated for the honor in one of two categories: lifetime achievement or significant contribution. The induction will take place at the annual National Aging and Law Conference in Arlington, Virginia, in December.

According to the eligibility criteria, the Hall of Fame “recognizes those who have advanced the legal rights of our nation’s over-sixty population, or a significant segment thereof. Those who have advocated on behalf of the poor, disadvantaged, socially needy, and vulnerable elderly will be given special consideration....” Advancing the legal rights includes, but is not limited to: providing or obtaining legal advice or representation; assisting elders in understanding and exercising their rights; assisting elders, particularly those at risk of inappropriate guardianship, in maintaining their legal rights; advocating for either state or federal legislation that advances elder rights; and “improving the quality and quantity of legal assistance available” to this population. Nominations are open to all professional disciplines; however, current member of the Executive Committee of the National Association of Legal Assistance Developers (NALSD) are ineligible.

Nominations should be received by September 10th, 2008 and should include the following information:

- the name and current occupation of the nominee;
- the category for which the nomination is made;
- a description of the nominee’s contributions based on the category in which they are nominated;
- background information or résumé of the nominee;
- supporting documentation such as letters of support, list of accomplishments, list of publications, etc.

For more information, or to nominate an advocate, contact [Bill Graham](#), legal services developer.

Funding Opportunities

The following funding opportunities are now available:

Helping Outreach Programs to Expand Grants

- Application deadline: Open; upon available funding.
- Helping Outreach Programs to Expand awards grants to improve outreach to, and services for, crime victims. Grassroots, nonprofit, community-based, and faith-based victim services organizations are among those eligible to apply.
- For more information, [click here](#).

The Borchard Fellowship in Law & Aging Research Grants

- Application deadline: All materials must be postmarked by September 30, 2008.
- The Center awards up to four grants of \$20,000 each year to “interested and qualified legal, health sciences, social sciences, and gerontology scholars and professionals....The objectives of the grants are to further research and scholarship about new or improved public policies, laws, and/or programs that will enhance the quality of life for the elderly, including those who are poor or otherwise isolated by lack of education, language, culture, disability, or other barriers....”
- For more information, [click here](#).

Editorial note: The Federal Legislative Update, Elder Abuse Literature, and State News are now quarterly postings. Elder Abuse Research will be featured in the upcoming E-News; State News will be included in the October issue; and the Federal Legislative Update will be included in the November issue.

Federal Legislative Update: A Quarterly Look at Legislation that May Impact the Lives of Older Americans

The **Elder Abuse Prevention Act (H.R.2105)**, which seeks to “prevent the abuse and exploitation of older individuals,” gained the support of Representative Gene Green (D, TX-29) in June. The bill was introduced in the House of Representatives in May by Ben Chandler (D, KY-6).

H.R.2105>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Elder Justice Act (S.1070 / H.R.1783)** gained the support of Representatives Andre Carson (D, IN-7), Mike Thompson (D, CA-1), Donald M. Payne (D, NJ-10), Bob Etheridge (D, NC-2) and Darlene Hooley (D, OR-5) in June and July, bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 120 in the House of Representatives and 28 in the Senate. The bill seeks to “amend the Social Security Act by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.”

S.1070>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

H.R.1783>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Senior Investor Protections Enhancement Act of 2008 (S.3219)** was introduced in the Senate by Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-PA) in June. The bill, which seeks to “enhance penalties for violations of securities protections that involve targeting seniors,” has been co-sponsored by Senator Herb Kohl (D-WI) and referred to the House Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

S.3219>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

The **Ensuring Home Health Care for Seniors Act of 2008 (S.3265)** was introduced in the Senate by Tim Johnson (D-SD) in July. The bill, which seeks to “amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payment of home health services on a reasonable cost basis,” has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

S.3265>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

The **Elder Serve Act of 2008 (H.R.6141)**, which was introduced in the House of Representatives in May by John A. Yarmuth (D, KY-3), gained the support of Representative Yvette D. Clarke (D, NY-11) in June. The bill, which seeks to “establish pilot programs that provide for emergency crisis response teams to combat elder abuse,” has been referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R.6141>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Stop Senior Suicide Act (S.1854 / H.R.4897)**, which seeks to “amend the Social Security Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve elderly suicide early intervention and prevention strategies,” gained the support of Representative John Lewis (D, GA-5) in June, bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 18 in the House of Representatives and 4 in the Senate.

S.1854>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

H.R.4897>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Caring for an Aging America Act of 2008 (S.2708 / H.R.6337)**, introduced in the Senate by Barbara Boxer (D-CA) in March to “amend the Public Health Service Act to attract and retain trained health care professionals and direct care workers dedicated to providing quality care) to the growing population of older Americans,” gained additional support in June from Senators Tim Johnson (D-SD),

(Continued on page 7)

Federal Legislation (continued from page 6)

Ron Wyden (OR), Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), bringing the total number of co-sponsors in the Senate to 7. The bill was introduced in the House of Representatives by Carolyn C. Kilpatrick (D, MI-13) on June 20, 2008 and has been supported by Representatives Joe Baca (D, CA-43) and Steve Cohen (D, TN-9). The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S.2708>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

H.R.6337>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Act of 2008 (S.2736 / H.R.2930)**, which seeks to “amend section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 to improve the program under such section for supportive housing for the elderly,” gained the support of Senators Bill Nelson (D-FL), Patrick J. Leahy (D-VT) and Mary L. Landrieu (D-LA) in June and July, bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 9 in the Senate and 15 in the House.

S.2736>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

H.R.2930>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Geriatric Assessment and Chronic Care Coordination Act of 2007 (S.1340 / H.R.2244)** received additional support in June from Representatives Ed Pastor (D, AZ-4) and Nita M. Lowey (D, NY-18), bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 20 in the House and 14 in the Senate. The bill seeks to “amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiaries with access to geriatric assessments and chronic care coordination services.”

S.1340>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

H.R.2244>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Community Choice Act (S. 799 / H.R. 1621)**, which seeks to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide individuals with disabilities and older Americans with equal access to community-based attendant services and supports” gained additional support from Representatives Henry C. “Hank” Johnson, Jr. (D, GA-4), Neil Abercrombie (D, HI-1), Silvestre Reyes (D, TX-16), Brad Ellsworth (D, IN-8), Marilyn N. Musgrave (R, CO-4), Peter T. King (R, NY-3), Judy Biggert (R, IL-13) and Daniel Lipinski (D, IL-3) in June, bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 115 in the House of Representatives and 21 in the Senate.

S.799>> [Click here to read the Senate bill.](#)

H.R.1621>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Alzheimer's Treatment and Caregiver Support Act (H.R.1032)**, which seeks to “amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for treatment and support services for Alzheimer's patients and their families,” gained additional support from Representatives Melvin L. Watt (D, NC-12), Diana DeGette (D, CO-1), Robert Wexler (D, FL-19), Zoe Lofgren (D, CA-16), Nita M. Lowey (D, NY-18), Phil Hare (D, IL-17), John J. Hall (D, NY-19) and Patrick J. Kennedy (D, RI-1) in June, bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 116. The bill has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.1032>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

The **Seniors' Health Care Freedom Act of 2007 (H.R.195)**, which seeks to “provide greater health care freedom for seniors,” gained additional support from Representative Michele Bachmann (R, MN-6) in June, bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 6. The bill, which was introduced in the House of Representatives by Ron Paul in January 2007, has been referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.195>> [Click here to read the House bill.](#)

Calendar of Events

September 16 -19, 2008
Elder Abuse Instructor Training Program (EAITP)

Dallas, TX
Email: [Click Here](#)
Telephone: 800-743-5382
Website: [Click Here](#).

September 10-11, 2008
5th Annual Making the Case for Justice Conference: Investigation and Prevention of Crimes Against Elder and Vulnerable Adults

Meydenbauer Center
Bellevue, WA
Telephone: 206 - 296-8797
Email: [Click Here](#)

August 26 - 29, 2008
The 19th Annual National Adult Protective Services Association Conference - *Adult Protective Services: Advocating, Protecting and Serving Vulnerable Adults*

Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers
Chicago, IL
Website: [Click Here](#)
Telephone: 720-565-0906
Email: [Click Here](#).

September 23-25, 2008
Prosecuting Elder Abuse Cases National College of District Attorneys – America’s School for Prosecutors

National Advocacy Center
Columbia, SC
Website: [Click Here](#)
Telephone: (803) 705-5093
Email: [Click Here](#)

December 3-6, 2008
8th Annual National Aging and Law Conference

Double Tree Hotel
Arlington, VA
Website: [Click Here](#)
Telephone: 202-434-2197
Email: [Click Here](#)

NCEA/University of Delaware
Center for Community Research and
Service/CCRS
297 Graham Hall
Newark, DE 19716
On the Web at: www.ncea.aoa.gov
Email: ncea-info@aoa.hhs.gov
Telephone: 302-831-3525

NCEA Grantees:

Clearinghouse on Abuse and
Neglect of the Elderly,
University of Delaware (CANE-UD)
On the Web at: www.cane.udel.edu

National Adult Protective Services
Association (NAPSA)
On the Web at: www.apsnetwork.org

National Committee for the
Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA)
One the Web at:
www.preventelderabuse.org

National Center on Elder Abuse

NCEA E-News

Volume 11 Number 1 August 2008

To Subscribe to the
NCEA E-NEWS
[Click Here.](#)

The NCEA E-News is published monthly by the *Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly (CANE)* of the University of Delaware, and edited by Sharon Merriman-Nai.

The NCEA newsletter is supported in part by a grant (No. 90AM3146) from the Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Grantees undertaking projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Therefore, points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official Administration on Aging policy.