

Alberta Elder Abuse Awareness

Community Profile

Name of Community: Central Alberta

Elder Abuse Case Manager

4620 47th Ave Red Deer T4N 6C3

Phone 403-343-6074

email oc@goldencircle.ca

Overview of Community Response to Elder Abuse in this Community

Resources and Supports:

1. Elder abuse is recognized as a form of domestic violence. In this community, response efforts are coordinated through **Domestic Violence Coordinators** and the **Domestic Relations Violence Initiative Committee (D.R.V.I.C.)**.

Key initiatives include:

Bimonthly D.R.V.I.C. Meetings

Held in Red Deer at the Children's Services Office (8:00 AM, first Wednesday of each month)

Community Coordination

The Domestic Relations Violence Initiative Committee (D.R.V.I.C.) leads collaboration across agencies to address family violence

Awareness Campaigns

Coordinated activities during Family Violence Prevention Month (November)

Training & Capacity Building

Co-training programs for professionals responding to family violence situations

Provincial & National Engagement

Representation in discussions on family violence at broader levels

Resource & Research Support

Providing tools, information, and research support to agencies addressing:

- Family violence
- Elder abuse
- Bullying

2. **Central Alberta E.A.R.S. Program** (Elder Abuse Awareness, Resources and Supports for Seniors).

The E.A.R.S. program works across Red Deer and surrounding communities in Central Alberta to strengthen awareness and access to support for older adults.

E.A.R.S. connects communities through:

- Workshops and training
- Resource development and distribution
- Services and support systems
- A centralized directory of elder abuse resources and services across Central Alberta

Key Activities Include:

- Develop and maintain a regional elder abuse resource directory
- Deliver educational presentations on elder abuse
- Recruit and support community presenters
- Strengthen collaboration between agencies and communities

Available Resources

Resources are available through the E.A.R.S. Resource Room (Red Deer) and the Golden Circle Seniors Resource Centre (403-343-6074).

Available materials include:

- Pamphlets and booklets
- Educational DVDs
- Information and referral supports

Collaborative Network

E.A.R.S. is a region-wide collaborative initiative, partnering with organizations and communities committed to supporting older adults.

Partner Organizations Include

RCMP

Victim Services

Crisis Centres

Women's Emergency Shelters

**Alberta Seniors & Community Supports
(Provincial Government)**

City of Red Deer – Social Planning

**Domestic Relations Violence Initiative Committee
(D.R.V.I.C.)**

**Alberta Health Services (Senior Mental Health, Home
Care, Continuing Care)**

Golden Circle Seniors Resource Centre

Family Services of Central Alberta

Red Deer Native Friendship Centre

Community Legal Clinic

Alzheimer Society

Catholic Social Services

Salvation Army

Canadian Mental Health Association

Office of the Public Guardian

SPCA

Council on Aging

Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society

Senior Resource Centres across Central Alberta

Partner Communities Include

Blackfalds

Innisfail

Pennhold

Eckville

Sylvan Lake

Ponoka

Bashaw

Useful Resources to Share

Creating safe environments for older adults requires a community-wide effort. E.A.R.S. supports ongoing collaboration, education, and engagement across Central Alberta.

Key Initiatives

Annual Community Workshops

Bringing communities together to share knowledge, learn from one another, and strengthen support systems for older adults

Ongoing Training & Meetings

Delivered based on emerging community needs, with a continued focus on:

- Increasing awareness of elder abuse
- Strengthening community response
- Supporting safe and inclusive environments for seniors

E.A.R.S. continues to grow as a collaborative network of organizations and community groups across Central Alberta. If your organization or seniors' group is interested in participating:

Fill out your groups information and email it to oc@goldencircle.ca.