

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY JUNE 15[™], 2022

Kuujjuaq, June 14th, 2022 – In Nunavik and elsewhere in Quebec, elder abuse is an existing reality that must not be ignored. The recent pandemic has highlighted the importance of acting collectively to prevent and counter the mistreatment of people in vulnerable situations.

Declared by the UN in 2011, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, on June 15th, is the opportune occasion to recognize the contribution of elderly people to communities and promote caring. It is also an opportunity to highlight the importance of implementing actions aimed at recognizing, denouncing and intervening to counter elder abuse.

Mistreatment in Nunavik

A regional policy concerning the fight against the mistreatment of elders and adults in vulnerable situations was adopted last year, including a form for reporting situations of mistreatment. The Inulitsivik Health Centre (IHC) and Ungava Tulattavik Health Centre (UTHC) complaint handling policies have been revised accordingly.

Although no regionally specific data is currently available on reports concerning this matter, it is the collective duty of everyone to act in prevention and awareness, as it has serious consequences for those who endure mistreatment.

What to watch out for in Nunavik

During World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, people will be donning purple ribbons that symbolize the fight against elder abuse. Everyone is encouraged to wear purple to help raise awareness concerning elder abuse in their communities.

Take time to connect with Elders (friends, family or neighbours) to get a better understanding of what they deal with daily. Talk about this day with them and others, about the importance of raising awareness in preserving the fundamental rights of Elders to live with dignity, free from abuse in all its forms.

An awareness tool for the well-being of Elders will be available in the coming weeks. Keep track of social media and the NRBHSS website to discover this guide as soon as it is released.

Resources available

Several resources are available to Nunavimmiut:

- Inuit Values and Practices of the NRBHSS: 1-844-964-2244, from 9am to 5pm (Inuktitut/English)
- CLSC/Nursing Stations:

Akulivik:819-496-2107Aupaluk:819-491-7458Inukjuak:819-254-8540Ivujivik:819-922-9978

Kangiqsualujjuaq: 819-337-5245 819-338-3251 Kangirsujuag: Kangirsuk: 819-935-4878 Kuujjuag: 819-964-2905 Kuujjuaraapik: 819-929-3442 Puvirnitug: 819-988-2957 Quaqtaq: 819-492-9127 Salluit: 819-255-8439 819-633-5710 Tasiujag: Umiujaq: 819-331-7021

- The Ligne Aide Abus Aînés <u>www.aideabusaines.ca</u> 1-888-489-287
 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm (French/English)
- The Elders' Coordinator in your community
- Emergencies: 819-XXX-9111
- Service Quality and Complaints Commissioner: https://nrbhss.ca/en/complaints

Let's act together to counter abuse and promote respect.

The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services is a public agency created in 1978 under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. It is responsible for nearly the entire Quebec territory located north of the 55th parallel in terms of the provision of health and social services for the inhabitants of the 14 communities.

-30 -

Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

For information: Sandrine Berger

Communication Officer, NRBHSS

Email: media.nrbhss@ssss.gouv.qc.ca