NATIONAL ELDER ABUSE MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM SUMMIT

Advancing Dignity and Well-Being

SUMMIT AGENDA

MAY 29-30, 2025

THURSDAY

DAY 1 MAY 29	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
	10:00am – 10:30am	**Andy Mao** *National Elder Justice Coordinator* *Deputy Director* *Civil Fraud Section* *US Department of Justice*	**Welcome and Opening Remarks**
	10:30am - 11:00am	**Talitha Guinn-Shaver** *MDT Technical Advisor* *Elder Justice Initiative* *US Department of Justice*	**Advancing MDT Practices** Multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) are considered a best practice in the field of elder justice, and MDT models are being replicated nationwide. These teams are often noted to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of inter-agency collaboration on elder abuse cases. This session will examine practices teams can implement to optimally serve their clients and advance the field. Attendees will learn about a series of activities undertaken to shed light on emerging client/community needs, including proposed network definitions, best practices, consistent data collection, and program evaluation. These findings formed the foundation for the Summit's agenda.
	11:00am - 11:05am		**Break**

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DAY 1 MAY 29	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
	11:05am – 12:20pm	**Page Ulrey** *Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney* *Elder Abuse Unit* *King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office*	**Making the Case: How Collaboration Among Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, and MDT Member Agencies Improves Prosecution** There is some evidence that cases reviewed by an MDT have higher rates of referral for prosecution. That may be because MDTs are effective and efficient in ensuring better investigations and prosecutions of elder abuse crimes by bringing together many professionals to share their expertise, to share information, and to improve communication. Members of the MDT who attend to the needs of the victims play an important role in facilitating prosecutors' ability to hold abusers accountable. This session will describe how MDTs benefit elder abuse prosecution, discuss best practice for collaborating with law enforcement through MDTs, and will showcase ways that MDTs have made elder abuse investigations more successful through case examples.
	12:20pm - 12:50pm		**Lunch**
	12:50pm - 2:05pm	**Joy Ernst, PhD, LLMSW** *Associate Professor Emeritus* *School of Social Work* *Wayne State University*	**A Shift in Perspective: The Relevance of Trauma-Informed Practices for MDTs** Some behaviors exhibited by trauma survivors are misinterpreted by MDT members as lying, or somehow inconsistent with how they expect a victim to behave. Lack of understanding of how trauma affects a victim can help determine whether the case even goes forward and thereby becomes an access to justice issue. Recent work on the impact of trauma across the life course underscores the need to recognize trauma and incorporate trauma-informed practices into systems' responses to elder abuse. In this session, attendees will learn the six principles of trauma-informed practices and the application of those principles to the MDT context, including a discussion of the benefits and challenges of adopting trauma-informed practices.

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THURSDAY

DAY 1 MAY 29	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
	2:05pm - 2:10pm		**Break**
	2:10pm - 3:25pm	**Laura Mosqueda, MD, FAAFP, AGSF** *Professor of Family Medicine and Geriatrics* *Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California* **Bonnie Olsen, PhD** *Professor of Clinical Family Medicine* *Department of Family Medicine* *Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California* **Miles McNeeley, LCSW** *Vice-President* *Elder Abuse Prevention* *WISE & Healthy Aging* **Fabiola Flores, MS** *Project Manager* *APS Center of Excellence* *WISE & Healthy Aging* **Renee Rose, JD** *Deputy-in-Charge* *Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Section* *White Collar Crimes Division* *Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office* **Francisco Javier Wong Jr, MPA** *Acting Human Services Administrator II* *APS Program and Planning Division* *Los Angeles County, California*	**Best Outcomes for Whom? The Application of Person-Centered Practices to MDTs** Related to trauma-informed practices, person-centered practices ensure that individual's values and preferences are elicited and once expressed, guide all aspects of their care. In this session, attendees will learn about the foundational principles of person-centered practices, their applicability to MDTs, followed by a discussion of an MDT's adoption of person-centered practices and the benefits accrued to older victims and ultimately, elder abuse investigations and prosecutions.

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DAY 1 MAY 29	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
THURSDAY	3:25pm - 3:30pm		**Break**
	3:30pm - 4:45pm	**Chris Dubble, MSW** *CEO* *Pursuit of Discovery Training and Consultation*	**Best Practices for MDT Members Communicating with Older Adults** The manner in which MDT members communicate with older clients has implications for whether older adults engage with MDT members as well as the accuracy and completeness of the information gathered. This session will help professionals understand how to communicate effectively with older adults. When an older adult experiences abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation, they need and deserve professionals who recognize their unique needs, strengths, and abilities during interviews. This session will provide information on practical methods to conduct effective and strength-based interviews to ensure useful information is gathered.
	4:45pm - 5:00pm	**Andy Mao** *National Elder Justice Coordinator* *Deputy Director* *Civil Fraud Section* *US Department of Justice*	**Wrap-Up**

SUMMIT AGENDA

FRIDAY

DAY 2 MAY 30	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
	10:00am – 10:15am	**Andy Mao** *National Elder Justice Coordinator* *Deputy Director* *Civil Fraud Section* *US Department of Justice*	**Welcome**
	10:15am - 11:15am	**Alicia Aiken, JD** *Director* *Confidentiality Institute* *Danu Center for Strategic Advocacy*	**Confidentiality and Information Sharing on MDTs** Effective MDTs increase the ability of the criminal justice system to seek accountability and improve the victim experience when interacting with criminal justice. However, misunderstandings about the balance between sharing information and protecting confidential information can create barriers for new and existing MDTs. This session will provide a foundational understanding of confidentiality and describe ways of managing confidentiality that are respectful of all professions serving on elder abuse MDTs.
	11:15am - 11:20am		**Break**
	11:20am - 12:50pm	**Robyn James (AL)** *Director* *Elder Justice Center of Alabama* **Shelly Carlson, MPA (MN)** *Special Projects Manager* *Minnesota Elder Justice Center* **Allison Granata (NY)** *Director* *E-MDT Initiatives* *Lifespan of Greater Rochester* **Kristy Preston (NC)** *Director* *Adult Protection Network* *UNC School of Government*	**State MDT Initiatives** This panel discussion will showcase seven innovative state MDT initiatives and the benefits that accrue to the state and ultimately justice for older victims. Topics include state funding for MDT replication, providing funding for infrastructure development, accessibility of resources and experts, and tips and lessons learned that other states could utilize in developing their own MDT initiatives.

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DAY 2 MAY 30	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
	11:20am - 12:50pm	**Robin Young (OH)** *APS Policy Developer* *Ohio Department of Job and Family Services* **Jason Burnett, PhD (TX)** *Associate Professor* *UTHealth, Houston* *Co-Director* *Texas Elder Abuse and Mistreatment Institute* **Jane Carlson (WY)** *APS Program Analyst* *Wyoming Department of Family Services*	(continued)
	12:50pm - 1:20pm		**Lunch**
	1:20pm - 2:20pm	**Julia Martinez, PhD** *Director of Research and Evaluation* *ReGenerations Aging Services*	**MDT Program Evaluation** Although randomized control trials are considered the gold standard in program evaluation, they may be less applicable to MDTs, which are complex learning systems and potentially in a continual state of adaptive change. This session will introduce attendees to knowledge generation strategies and procedures that are more applicable to the complex and dynamic nature of MDTs. This session will explore alternative program evaluation strategies that can help teams understand their impact and adjust their procedures, with the goal of enhancing justice for older adults.
	2:20pm - 2:25pm		**Break**

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DAY 2 MAY 30	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
FRIDAY	2:25pm - 3:25pm	**David Burnes, PhD** *Professor* *Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work* *University of Toronto* **Patricia Kimball, MS, MS** *Executive Director* *Elder Abuse Institute of Maine*	**Putting These Principles into Practice** The RISE model is a victim service program designed to reduce harm, respect autonomy, restore relationships, and advance justice in a holistic and flexible way. RISE is an example of a program that has adopted all of the principles discussed over the past day and half. In this session, members of the RISE Collaborative will discuss the benefits to - and the struggles with - adopting these principles and how adoption of these principles has contributed to better outcomes for their clients, whether or not the case is prosecuted.
	3:25pm - 3:30pm		**Break**
	3:30pm - 4:30pm	***CONCURRENT***	**Practical Application Workshops**
		Joy Ernst, PhD, LLMSW *Associate Professor Emeritus* *School of Social Work* *Wayne State University* **Laura Mosqueda, MD, FAAFP, AGSF** *Professor of Family Medicine and Geriatrics* *Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California*	**Break-out 1 – Implementing Trauma-Informed and Person-Centered Practices** Bring your questions and ideas to this session that will look at practical tips for making your MDTs more person-centered and trauma-informed.
		Alicia Aiken, JD *Director* *Confidentiality Institute* *Danu Center for Strategic Advocacy*	**Break-out 2 – Implementing Confidentiality Protocols** Join The Confidentiality Institute for a one-hour workshop where we will discuss a scenario that highlights tricky questions related to balancing confidentiality and information-sharing in an MDT, and take participant questions about their own local challenges.

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DAY 2 MAY 30	Time	Speakers	Session Title and Abstract
FRIDAY	3:30pm - 4:30pm	***CONCURRENT***	**Practical Application Workshops**
		Julia Martinez, PhD *Director of Research and Evaluation* *ReGenerations Aging Services*	**Break-out 3 – Planning Program Evaluation** This session will reinforce the value of ripple effect mapping for your team and explore practical ways to get started on your own map.
		Chris Dubble, MSW *CEO* *Pursuit of Discovery Training and Consultation*	**Break-out 4 – Implementing Interview Protocols** This session will break down the most important steps for implementing interviewing best practices with real-world examples and time allotted for your team-specific questions.
		Page Ulrey *Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney* *Elder Abuse Unit* *King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office*	**Break-out 5 – Utilizing MDTs to Protect Older Victims** This workshop will examine a real case in which compelling solutions were used through an MDT to improve case development and protect the older victim. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss innovations and issues in their own prosecutor partnerships with their MDT.
	4:30pm - 4:40pm	**Andy Mao** *National Elder Justice Coordinator* *Deputy Director* *Civil Fraud Section* *US Department of Justice*	**Closing Remarks**