

SENIOR BRIGADE

www.seniorbrigade.com



**Protect Your Loved Ones:
Residential Care Facilities**

1

Topics Covered

- Choosing a residential care facility.
- Recognizing and reporting elder abuse.
- Protecting your loved ones while they are in a residential care facility.

2

Choosing a Nursing Home

- **Step 1:** Find nursing homes in your area at www.medicare.gov/NHCompare.
- **Step 2:** Compare nursing home quality.



5

Comparing Nursing Homes

- Health and Fire Inspection Results.
- Nursing Home Staff Data
 - Credentialing of licensed staff (www.dleg.state.mi.us/verify.htm).
 - Criminal Background Checks are required for all employees who have direct access or provide direct services to residents in a health facility.



11

Choosing a Nursing Home

Step 3: Visit the nursing homes and use the handout - Nursing Home Checklist.

Step 4: Choose the home that best meets your needs.



12

Neglect and Abuse



- **Neglect** defined: Failure to provide goods and services necessary to avoid physical harm, mental anguish, or mental illness.
- **Physical Abuse** defined: Willful infliction of injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation or punishment with resulting physical harm, pain, or mental anguish.
- **Financial Abuse** defined: Misappropriation of a resident's money/assets.



15

Warning Signs of Elder Abuse

- Slap marks, bruises, and certain types of burns or blisters should cause suspicion and may signal **physical or sexual abuse**.
- Withdrawal from normal activities, unexplained change in alertness, or other unusual behavior may signal **emotional abuse or neglect**.

More Warning Signs

- Sudden change in finances and accounts, altered wills and trusts, unusual bank withdrawals, and loss of property may suggest elder **financial exploitation**.
- Untreated bedsores, lack of medical or dental care, unclean clothing, poor hygiene, overgrown hair and nails, and unusual weight loss are signs of possible **neglect**.

Steps you may take to keep your loved one safe...

- BE INVOLVED!
 - Participate in Resident Care Conferences and Family Council meetings.
 - Visit often.
 - Know staff and their duties.



Protect valuables



- Patient Trust Funds are offered by facilities to retain cash for personal needs.
- Don't keep checkbooks, credit cards, large amounts of cash in the resident's room.
- Remove all expensive jewelry – keep it at home.
- Monitor Bank, Investment, and Credit Card statements and credit reports.

SeniorBrigade.com



SeniorBrigade
A MICHIGAN SENIORS WEBSITE

Providing valuable information and resources to Michigan seniors

Google™ Custom Search

Search

HEALTH CARE

FINANCIAL MATTERS

CONSUMER PROTECTION

VETERANS AFFAIRS

CONTACT US

Click to enlarge text size: **A A A**

Protect Yourself, Protect Your Future

Now more than ever, seniors need information to help them with financial and health care decisions, and that will protect them against scam artists and predators. Nationwide, as many as 5,000,000 seniors fall victim to financial abuse each year.

This website is a clearinghouse for helpful information on consumer protection, financial matters, health care issues and veterans' services. It provides links to a wide variety of state and federal programs to help make informed decisions that can benefit you and your family.



Click here to watch Mike Cox's video message

The Senior Brigade also features a statewide calendar of events, sorted by

Senior Events Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



REGISTER ONLINE

Receive FREE Senior Brigade programming at your location.



24

SeniorBrigade.com

[Click here to watch Attorney General Cox's video message.](#)

SENIORBRIGADE GUIDE

A printable brochure for Michigan Seniors to assist them with issues regarding Consumer Protection, Financial Matters and Health Care.

Click here for a [text only version](#).



MICHIGAN ATTORNEY GENERAL

A direct connection to Michigan's Chief Law Enforcement Officer



LOW PRICE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

A site to search more than 150 commonly prescribed drugs in Michigan for the lowest possible price. Searchable by zip code, city, or pharmacy.



CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR

Michigan House of Representatives and Senate websites provide assistance in locating and contacting a Representative or Senator by county, district number or name.

Immediately report it to one of the consumer reporting companies: Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; Experian 1-888-397-3742; or TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289.

The company you call is required to contact the other two companies. Also visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft for other tips.

> [Click here to see more QuickTips.](#)



Send us your comments

We'd like to hear from you! Let us know what you think of SeniorBrigade.com and if there are any changes you would like to see.



SeniorBrigade Updates

Click here to sign up for the latest news on updates to SeniorBrigade.com

[Health Care](#) | [Financial Matters](#) | [Consumer Protection](#) | [Veterans Affairs](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Contact Your Legislator](#) | [Disclaimer](#)



25