Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all, To Stand Firm...

Praying at all time in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

To that end keep Alert with supplication for all saints.

~Ephesians 6:13,18~
Safe States Annual Conference

North Carolina & Kentucky’s Elder Maltreatment Surveillance Pilot Projects

Alan J. Dellapenna, Jr., Branch Head
Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, North Carolina Division of Public Health

alan.dellapenna@dhhs.nc.gov
This presentation was supported by:

Supplement to Cooperative Agreement CD09-904, NVDRS from the:

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC).

It’s contents are solely the responsibility of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC.
National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS)

- Violence is a public health problem nationwide
  - Over 50,000 Homicides & Suicides each year.

- CDC developed the NVDRS to
  - Track Trends & Characteristics of Violent Deaths
  - Goal of reducing the Number and Incidence Violent Deaths

- Additional information on the NVDRS can be found at:
  www.cdc.gov/ncipc/profiles/nvdrs/facts
Currently Funded NVDRS States (2010)
Percent of Deaths Due to Violence by Manner/Intent:
NC & KY Violent Death Reporting Systems

North Carolina:
- Suicide: 60%
- Homicide: 35%
- 3% Undetermined Intent
- 2% Unintentional Firearm
- 1% Legal Intervention

Kentucky:
- Suicide: 61%
- Homicide: 35%

2004-2008
N= 8,931

2005-2008
In 2006 3-5 million reports of adult abuse in the United States were received.

In 2007 The Kentucky Department for Community Based Services received 45,048 reports of adult abuse, 9,660 were for persons 60 and older.

Elder Abuse Awareness

Elder abuse is often a silent crime.

Most of us never see it because most victims are abused behind closed doors by their own family members.

And, too often, people who do see it choose not to get involved because it’s “none of my business.”
The law says it’s our business.

Kentucky is a mandatory reporting state.  
(Reference KRS 209.030)

If you suspect elder abuse, you are legally required to report it.

You can report abuse at the 24 hour toll free hotline 1-800-752-6200, calls can be made anonymously.

Mickey Rooney Tells Congress About his Abuse
March 2, 2011

WASHINGTON — Actor Mickey Rooney, 90 told Congress on Wednesday that he was left powerless by a family member who took and misused his money.

"I felt trapped, scared, used and frustrated,"
The North Carolina Division of Aging & Adult Services
- Responsible for supervising NC’s APS program
- 1 of the oldest in the country, since 1975

Regardless of Adult’s Living Arrangement
- All reports of Abuse, Neglect, & Exploitation of a disabled adult are made to the county Div of Social Services.

Per NC’s Adult Protective Service law
- Anyone with reasonable cause to believe a disabled adult is in need of protective services can make a report.

Since 1993 North Carolina has had centralized data collection system
North Carolina
Adult Protective Services Background

- In the mid-1980’s a recognized increased demand for Adult Protective Services.

- Several factors contribute to the increase:
  - Nationwide growth in the elderly population combined
  - Popularity of North Carolina as a retirement state.
  - **22.5%** increase in NC’s elderly population between 2000 & 2009.

- By 2030, it is estimated that
  - 75 of the 100 North Carolina counties will have more adults over 65 than youth under the age 18
Kentucky Adult Protective Services Background

- Elder Abuse long regarded a critical issue in Kentucky
  - Numerous efforts to address the problem (2004-2009)
  - e.g. Changes in Elder Abuse Statues

- Creation of a Statewide Elder Abuse Committee

- Creation of 39 Local Elder Abuse Coordinating Councils

- Participation in a Nationally Visible Study

- Funding & Participation in a University/Cabinet study

“A Week in the Life of Adult Protective Services”
Kentucky Adult Protective Services

- Incorporates Preventive, Supportive, & Surrogate Services for persons in the community & in long-term care settings
  - Assists in maintaining Independence for as long as possible
  - Enabling freedom from Abuse, Neglect, & Exploitation

- Kentucky statute protects adults 18+ from abuse, neglect, and exploitation to ensure their safety and well-being.

- Allegations of Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of vulnerable adults are mandated by law to be reported to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS).

One case is one too many

Recognize and prevent elder abuse and neglect. Call (800) 752-6200 to report suspected abuse.

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Kentucky
Adult Protective Services

All reports are considered for investigation or preventive services,

Typically include visiting the victim and alleged perpetrator,

Interviewing both, & assessing the situation.

Competent victims are offered services that they can refuse or accept.
## North Carolina Adult Protective Services

### Reports & Requests (18+): 2007-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APS Statistics</th>
<th>FY 2007</th>
<th>FY 2008</th>
<th>FY 2009</th>
<th>FY 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reports Received</td>
<td>14,177</td>
<td>15,337</td>
<td>17,073</td>
<td>18,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports Evaluated</td>
<td>6,786</td>
<td>8,117</td>
<td>9,252</td>
<td>9,588</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

North Carolina Adult Protective Services
## Kentucky

### Adult Protective Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Adult Protective Services for 60-Plus Population</th>
<th>SFY04</th>
<th>SFY05</th>
<th>SFY06</th>
<th>SFY07</th>
<th>SFY08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Reports</td>
<td>7,676</td>
<td>9,136</td>
<td>9,386</td>
<td>9,660</td>
<td>11,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Investigations</td>
<td>5,043</td>
<td>5,179</td>
<td>6,548</td>
<td>6,442</td>
<td>7,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Investigations Substantiated</td>
<td>1,471</td>
<td>1,543</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>1,762</td>
<td>2,152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DCBS (2009)
Elder Maltreatment Surveillance Pilot Project (EMSP)

The increase in the number of elders,

Together with the rising number of reports of elder abuse nationally

Make it imperative to understand the APS response to elder abuse in North Carolina, Kentucky and in the nation.
NC- Elder Maltreatment Surveillance Pilot Project (EMSP)

Scope of Work

Develop a data file containing linked to

- APS,
- NC-VDRS
- Deaths Certificate Records

Elder Maltreatment Surveillance Pilot Project Results: Cast Matching 2005-2006

North Carolina
150,345 Deaths
   6,557 APS Case who Died
      25 Violent Death Matches

Kentucky
95,480 Deaths
   8,977 APS Cases who Died
      35 Violent Death Matches
## North Carolina & Kentucky Variables of Interest: Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Victim Demographic</th>
<th>Perpetrator Demographic</th>
<th>Type of Allegation</th>
<th>Date and Time of Report</th>
<th>Face-to-face Contact</th>
<th>Case Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NC</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KY</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prior Abuse (in system)</th>
<th>Agencies Involved</th>
<th>Substantiated or Not</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Perpetrator Known</th>
<th>Type of Perpetration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NC</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KY</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project Summary

Both Projects Spent Time

- Understanding the APS process
- Determining data custodians
- How best to access data
- Developing MOU’s and contracts
- Establishing privacy and confidentiality agreements
Project Summary

- New partnerships were developed.

- Bringing data into one database with the intent of sharing results between all involved is a benefit to both states.

Next Steps

- Developing a Supplemental Data Collection Form
Limited Results

- First time data sets Linked & Analyzed.
- Findings are Limited & Preliminary.

**Pilot Study Purpose Includes:**
- Identifying Elder Maltreatment Collaborators
- Recording & Collecting Practices among Investigators
- Maintaining Statewide Surveillance Data

- Inform future Primary Prevention efforts in Elder Maltreatment.
20 Articles Profiling the State of Injury & Violence Prevention in North Carolina

Table of Contents


Prevention and Control of Injury and Violence, Ricketts TC III

Positioning North Carolina for Leadership in Injury Control: A Call to Action, Runyan CW

Injury Prevention: North Carolina’s Challenge and Capacity to Respond, Rhyne SB, Schiro S

Injury Prevention: Aspects of the Legislative Response, Vitaglione T

Epidemiology of Injury and Violence in North Carolina, Proeschooldbell S, Haron

Interest and Need Greatly Outpace Resources for Youth Suicide Prevention, Lehman S

Unintentional Poisoning in North Carolina: An Emerging Public Health Problem, Ford MD

Addressing the Escalating Public Health Issue of Falls Among Older Adults, Schneider EC.

The North Carolina Falls Prevention Coalition, Rhyne SB, Schneider EC

Preventing Child Maltreatment in North Carolina, Zolotor AJ

Violence Against Women in North Carolina, Macy RJ


Is Fatality-Free Travel on North Carolina’s Streets and Highways Feasible? It’s Time to Think the Unthinkable, Garrison HG, Smith JL

Fatal and Nonfatal Firearm Injuries in North Carolina, Coyne-Beasley T, Lees AC

Occupational Injury in North Carolina, Castillo DN, Higgins S

Trauma Systems: Improving Trauma Outcomes in North Carolina, Becher RD, Meredith JW

Spotlight on the Safety Net: Safe Kids Cleveland County, Alexander-Bratcher K

Running the Numbers: Maternal Deaths Attributable to Violence and Injury in North Carolina, Meyer RE, Harper MA

Philanthropy Profile: Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome in North Carolina, Krentz J