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MULTI-AGENCY SET OF PROCEDURES FOR INTERVENTION IN CASES OF VIOLENCE AND ABUSE OF OLDER WOMEN NOW RELEASED IN THE EU PROJECT SAFE

The SAFE project, funded by the European Commission through the help of different professionals working with older people, has the purpose of improving the knowledge and expertise on the topic of older women abuse, developing a specific and multi-professional Training Curriculum, a Policy Paper on prevention and intervention in case of violence and abuse against older women, and a Multi-Agency Set of Procedures.

The partnership has now released a set of procedures whose aim is to promote multi-agency and multi-professional cooperation to strengthen identification, intervention, referral and protection of older women victims of violence. The development work has been structured in the framework of a Professional Learning Community Model. A professional learning community (PLC) is a method to foster collaborative learning among colleagues within a particular work environment or field. The key organizations form a group of people (Collaborative Learning Group) who interact, learn together, build relationships, and in the process, develop a sense of mutual commitment.

In the SAFE project the groups included social and health care teachers/trainers, professionals and relevant authorities (including, depending on country specific situations, representatives from the local police as they should cooperate with social and health care organizations in dealing with victims or potential victims) and decision makers and stakeholders (Social Assistance Services, associations of older persons and victims of violence, representatives of the VET education field).

The groups worked for identifying challenges of identification, intervention and referral of cases of violence and abuse of older women and for finding solutions how to overcome them. The goal of collaborative learning groups was also to identify gaps in the training curricula of professionals and needs of teachers' training and in this perspective each country group will.

Multi-Agency set of procedures includes model of cooperation between organizations, practical guidelines on the actions taken in suspected and identified cases in the workplaces, training and education gaps and needs and policy recommendations.

Download them from:

<http://www.safeeuproject.eu/outputs/>

