



COMMISSIONERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Vince DiFilippo
Chairman

Jim Hertzler
Vice Chairman

Gary Eichelberger
Secretary

June 14, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Bryson, Communications Director
717.706.0001

Commissioners Commit to Justice and Proclaim Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Carlisle, Pa. – The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners reaffirmed their commitment to ending elder abuse by proclaiming June 15 [Elder Abuse Awareness Day](#) in Cumberland County. Established by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization, Elder Abuse Awareness Day serves as a call-to-action in our communities to raise awareness of abuse, neglect and exploitation of elders.

“It’s estimated that one in 10 older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect or exploitation, and that very few, approximately one in 14, instances of elder abuse are ever reported,” said Vince DiFilippo, chairman of the Board of Commissioners. “Our older residents have worked hard for most of their lives and it’s our responsibility to do all we can to protect them from these many forms of abuse and exploitation.”

According to the most recent information available from the Pennsylvania Department of Aging, more than 34,000 cases of elder abuse were reported in the Commonwealth in 2015/16. Cumberland County reported 485 cases during that same time.

“Elder abuse takes so many different forms that it can be difficult for our older adults to recognize,” said Sandy Gurreri, director of Cumberland County’s department of Aging & Community Services. “At the Department of Aging, we have programs and resources to educate families and professionals who work with older adults to understand the importance of preventing isolation, how to spot the warning signs of abuse and what to do to address abuse or neglect.”

Cumberland County Aging & Community Services supports older adults, adults with disabilities, and their families by providing a variety of programs to enhance their quality of life and remain in their homes. Whether housing to nutrition, community activities to in-home services, or elder rights to Medicare assistance, a wide range of services are provided for the benefit of the local community. More information on these services can be found at www.ccpa.net/aging.

#

Cumberland County is the fastest growing county in the Commonwealth and offers the perfect mix of small town, suburban and rural living. Established in 1750, Cumberland County consistently maintains one of the lowest tax and unemployment rates in the State, while providing exceptional services for its more than 250,000 residents. More information on Cumberland County can be found at www.ccpa.net.