

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Course Title:** *RISK ASSESSMENT OF VICTIMS OF ELDER ABUSE*

## **Outline of Training:**

In this interactive and dynamic introductory training, participants learn how to assess risk across five domains in terms of severity and urgency. Participants will learn the benefits and limitations of risk assessment tools and how to develop risk reduction service plans.

The following instructional strategies are used: lecture segments; interactive activities/exercises (e.g. small group discussion, case studies); question/answer periods; PowerPoint slides; participant guide (encourages self-questioning and interaction with the content information); embedded evaluation to assess training content and process; and transfer of learning activity to access knowledge and skill acquisition and how these translate into practice in the field.

## **Course Requirements:**

Please note that training participants are expected to participate in a variety of in-class and post-training evaluation activities. These activities are designed to enhance the learning experience and reinforce the skill acquisition of training participants as well as determine the overall effectiveness of the trainings.

An executive summary of each training and directions for post-training evaluation activities will be provided to training participants and their supervisors. Certificates of course completion will be awarded upon completion of ALL course activities.

## **Target Audience:**

This course is designed for new APS social workers as well as community partners working with adults at risk for abuse (e.g. conservatorship investigators, and workers in the aging and disability networks). This training is also appropriate for senior staff that require knowledge and/or skills review.

## **Outcome Objectives for Participants:**

Learning goals – Upon completion of this training session, participants will be able to:

1. Define risk assessment and its function.
2. Assess risk factors in the five domains:
  - Health and Functional status
  - Mental health status and capacity
  - Living environment
  - Financial
  - Social (risk posed by others, including caretakers and family members)
3. Assess overall levels of risk in terms of severity, urgency and likelihood of harm

occurring.

4. Describe the benefits and limitations of risk assessment tools.
5. Develop risk reduction service plans

**Transfer of Learning:** *Ways supervisors can support the transfer of learning from the training room to on-the-job.*

**BEFORE the training**

Supervisors can encourage line staff to attend the training and help them identify particular strengths and/or challenges that they have had with risk assessments and developing risk reduction plans for clients. Training participants can share these experiences during training.

**AFTER the training**

Supervisors can read the training executive summary and instructions for out-of-class transfer of learning activity. Supervisor and training participants will then schedule a time to complete the activities together – at this point the trainees can share what specific skills they obtained from the training. If further staff involvement is available, trainees may present an overview of what was learned to other staff members to encourage collaboration and a culture of learning.