

**PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF
WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY**

WHEREAS, older adults deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and valued as contributing members of society, imparting a wealth of experience and wisdom in our communities. Yet every year, many adults over the age of 60 experience abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, 2023 marks the 17th Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; and

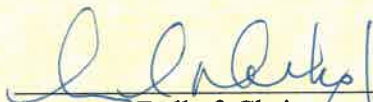
WHEREAS, Lewis County Department of Social Services, Lewis County Office for the Aging, and Lewis County Opportunities recognize the importance of taking action to invest in creating social change, to prioritize the prevention of elder abuse and raise awareness to foster a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older adults and their rights; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse has a significant impact on the lives of older adults and families; and is not limited to race, gender, culture, or circumstance, and regardless of whether the abuse is physical, emotional, sexual, financial or neglect. In 2022 there were 104 referrals to Adult Protective Services; and

WHEREAS, as our population lives longer, we are presented with an opportunity to think about our collective needs and future as a nation. Recognizing that it is up to all of us, as citizens, organizations, communities, and governments, to work collectively to prevent violence and abuse of older adults in their homes and communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lawrence Dolhof, Chairman of the Lewis County Board of Legislators, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2023 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Lewis County, and encourage all of our residents to recognize and celebrate older adults and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our community.




Lawrence Dolhof, Chairman
Lewis County Board of Legislators
Dated: June 6, 2023