**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Teresa Sutphin, FTAAAD, 423-722-5120
Date: 4 June, 2020

# World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15

**JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.**— World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was launched on June 15, 2006 by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations.

The purpose of WEAAD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.

In addition, WEAAD is in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action acknowledging the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue. WEAAD serves as a call-to-action for individuals, organizations, and communities to raise awareness about elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

The First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability (FTAAAD), the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) and the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL) invite you to join us in [**Lifting Up Voices**](https://eldermistreatment.usc.edu/weaad-home/tools-and-tips/#luv) for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) 2020. This theme serves as a platform for unifying Elder Justice and Violence Against Women by sharing the lived experiences of older people.

Due to COVID-19, in-person events have been cancelled in 2020, but a number of online/virtual events will be held around the world to build awareness of elder abuse. For example, on this World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), June 15, 2020, partners throughout the Federal government are coming together to share their innovations. [Join a national conversation](https://default.salsalabs.org/Tf3d21b70-9c4c-42cc-b2fc-2ec983e4100c/07450c28-2e77-4607-979e-2209a4d81a7a) about prominent elder justice issues, trends and resources available to promote awareness, provide support and offer solutions in upholding justice for Older Americans. Register [at https://events-na6.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/2153273592/en/events/event/shared/2161788368/event\_landing.html?sco-id=2164057482&campaign-id=&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=6e0f89f2-7baf-451d-9f4d-c7b274a1bf07](at%20https%3A/events-na6.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/2153273592/en/events/event/shared/2161788368/event_landing.html?sco-id=2164057482&campaign-id=&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=6e0f89f2-7baf-451d-9f4d-c7b274a1bf07)

First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability (FTAAAD) supports older adults and family caregivers by providing resources and education and by offering an Information and Assistance line that informs, guides, directs and links Northeast Tennesseans to needed and available resources. Call 866-836-6678 for I&A assistance with local resources and programs, or for questions about potential scams or fraud. For additional information on programs and services for older adults or adults with disabilities, contact Kathy Whitaker at 423-722-5102.

**About First Tennessee Development District Area Agency on Aging and Disability**FTAAAD’s mission is to improve the quality of life for older adults and adults with disabilities who live in the eight counties of Northeast Tennessee by advocating, setting policy, identifying local needs, providing services, coordinating resources, and providing information to promote a continuum of care which supports independence, choice, and empowerment for those we are committed to serve. For more information, call 423-928-3258 or visit [www.ftaaad.org](http://www.ftaaad.org).

