

# Centering Elder Abuse Interventions on Wellbeing:

# Person-Centered Approaches in Multidisciplinary Teams

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#### What is elder abuse?



- Abuse, neglect, or exploitation of an older person by someone in a relationship of trust.
- Types of abuse
- 10% prevalence in the United States



## What are multidisciplinary teams (MDTs)?



- Responses to abuse: social service, legal, medical, criminal justice
- Team approach allows coordinated intervention and service provision
- Members include protective services, law enforcement, prosecutors, civil law, medical professionals, victim advocates, aging services

## What are multidisciplinary teams?





- Purpose: help siloed service systems collaborate
- Priorities
  - Safety and protection, followed by selfdetermination
  - Older adult's "wishes" are not a priority, but are mentioned in case discussions
  - Plans may be changed if they oppose older adult priorities

## Challenges and Assumptions

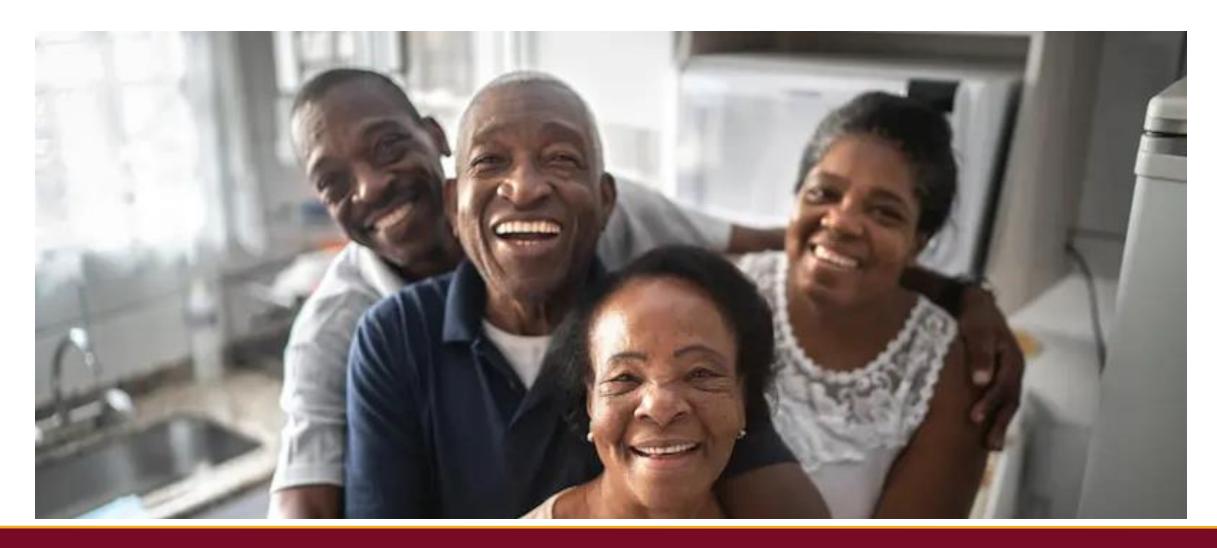
- Assumption: breaking down siloes will result in improved outcomes
- Defining success in MDTs is unclear
- Older adults are not usually included in MDT discussions



#### What is person-centered care?

- The American Geriatrics Society
  - Care where "individuals' values and preferences <u>are elicited and once</u> <u>expressed</u>, <u>guide all aspects of their health care</u>, supporting their realistic health and life goals."
  - Includes elements supportive to this approach and challenges within the predominant service paradigm
- The Adult Protective Services Ethical Guidelines
  - "services <u>that considers</u> an adult's <u>needs</u>, <u>goals</u>, <u>preferences</u>, <u>cultural</u> traditions, <u>family situation</u>, and <u>values</u>. Services and supports are delivered from the perspective of the individual receiving care, and, when appropriate, his or her family."

#### What do older adults want?



#### What do older adults want?

Hope, for Life Advice from self and purpose peers with loved ones similar To be experiences heard and believed Non-Maintain judgmental autonomy and confidant **Avoid facility** relationships placement

## Person-centered approaches in MDTs



## Defining person-centered practices in MDTs





May 2023

Consensus Convening



September – October 2023

National Questionnaire



March 2024

National Symposium

## Consensus Convening, May 22-3, 2023



### Elements of person-centered MDTs



VALUES – foundational principles



MECHANISMS – concrete activities



CONSIDERATIONS – help us more clearly understand the situation

## VALUES of person-centeredness

- Respect
- Collaboration
- Broadmindedness
- Dignity
- Empathy
- Self-determination
- Trust

- Transparency
- Privacy



#### MECHANISMS of person-centeredness

- Communication
- Relationships

Services for the person harming

- Criminal Justice
- Elder-directed
- Restorative Justice
- Offering options



## **CONSIDERATIONS** of person-centeredness

- Older adult preferences and goals
- Changing preferences and circumstances
- Intersectionality and Identity
- Individual definitions
- Impact of trauma
- Balance with safety
- Equity





## Older Adults' Voices



#### THANK YOU!

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