



## **Brooklyn Multidisciplinary Team (MDT): Directory of Participating Agencies**

### **JASA - Brooklyn**

#### *Adult Protective Services*

JASA mission is to sustain and enrich the lives of older adults in the New York metropolitan area so that they can remain in the community with dignity and autonomy. JASA's Adult Protective Services (APS) is contracted through the Human Resources Administration to provide protective services to persons eighteen years and older who are: 1) mentally and/or physically impaired; 2) unable to manage the activities of daily living or protect themselves from abuse or exploitation due to their impairments; and 3) have no one willing and able to assist them in a responsible manner. NYS law mandates APS to make a police report when it believes that a crime has been committed against an APS client. For more information about JASA Brooklyn APS services, contact Johnola Morales at 718-943-7746 or [Jmorales@jasa.org](mailto:Jmorales@jasa.org). (For more information, see: <http://www.jasa.org/services/support/abuse.html>)

*Brooklyn MDT representative:* Johnola Morales, JASA Brooklyn APS Director

### **JASA - Brooklyn**

#### *LEAP Legal*

LEAP (Legal/Social Work Elder Abuse Program) provides interdisciplinary legal and social work services, education and outreach to victims of elder abuse in Manhattan (below 59<sup>th</sup> Street), Queens and Brooklyn who have been injured, exploited, or otherwise mistreated. Abuse may take several different forms, including, physical, psychological, and financial exploitation. LEAP attorneys work in conjunction with social workers to provide a comprehensive approach to the unique problems facing elder abuse victims. Where appropriate, LEAP attorneys represent seniors, 60 years and older in New York State and Federal courts. LEAP attorneys are based in the JASA Legal Services for the Elderly in Queens office located in Rego Park, Queens and may be contacted at 718-286-1500 or contact Cheryl Lee at [Clee@jasa.org](mailto:Clee@jasa.org) or at 718-943-7752 (For more information, see: <http://www.jasa.org/services/support/abuse.html>)

*Brooklyn MDT representatives:* Cheryl Lee, LEAP Project Director

### **Kings County District Attorney's Office**

#### *Domestic Violence Bureau/Elder Abuse Unit*

The Elder Abuse Unit of the Domestic Violence Bureau handles all cases of spousal/intimate partner abuse, parental abuse (including parents, grandparents, great grandparents, etc) and abuse by all caretakers (paid or unpaid) involving victims age 60 years or older. The Elder Abuse Unit handles cases of *physical abuse*. Physical abuse includes not only assaults, but also *threats of violence*. *Neglect* is another form of abuse handled by the Unit. The Unit is actively involved in community outreach and conducts training which focuses on the detection, investigation and prosecution of elder abuse cases. Cases come to the Unit either as the result of an arrest or through referrals from agencies, hospitals, attorneys, courts or other community sources. The Elder Abuse Unit also provides counseling, emotional support, safety planning and social service referrals for victims both during and after closure of the criminal case. (For more information, contact Marta Kuklik at 718-250-3071 or at [Kuklikm@brooklynda.org](mailto:Kuklikm@brooklynda.org) or see URL: <http://www.brooklynda.org/elders/elderabuse.htm>)

One of the functions of the District Attorney's Action Center is intake and referral. This means that complaints received from the general public, or other agencies (APS for example)—along with relevant documents, contact information for the victims, and suspected abusers—are forwarded to the appropriate bureau within the District Attorneys office for review and possible investigation. The information on elder abuse complaints are relayed to the Elder Abuse Unit which is overseen by Arlene Markarian; Financial exploitation complaints are forwarded the KCDA's Rackets Bureau. (For more information, contact Anthony Barosy at 718-250-2340 or [Barosya@brooklynda.org](mailto:Barosya@brooklynda.org))

*Brooklyn MDT representatives:* Arlene M. Markarian, Bureau Chief, Elder Abuse Unit; Peg Horan, LMSW, Unit Coordinator; Marta Kuklik, Investigating Paralegal

### **NYC Department for the Aging (DFTA)**

#### *The Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center*

The NYC Department for the Aging's Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center (ECVRC) provides direct assistance and referral for victims of elder abuse and crime, age 60 and older. Services include crisis intervention, case assistance, advocacy, counseling, safety planning, assistance with orders of protection, and emergency assistance. Case consultation services are available to professionals. The Center provides training and workshops for community-based providers. The Department views education as the first line of defense in preventing elder abuse. DFTA conducts ongoing training and education on this topic for the staff of senior centers, case management agencies, home care providers and other aging professionals. Professional disciplines that are typically represented on elder abuse teams include adult protective services, the civil and criminal justice systems, health and social services, and mental health. DFTA's Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center can be reached via 311. The ECVRC intake worker can be reached directly at 212-442-3103, Mon- Fri from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. (For more information, see URL: [www.nyc.gov/aging](http://www.nyc.gov/aging))

*Brooklyn MDT representatives:* Bernadette Delaney (Social Work Supervisor)

## **NYC Elder Abuse Center (NYCEAC)**

### *Brooklyn MDT*

The problem of elder abuse is complex, requiring thoughtful and innovative solutions. A collaborative response improves the effectiveness of agency responses, efficiently utilizes scarce resources and can lead to original research ideas and initiatives. *This collaborative approach defines the NYCEAC.* Through its partners and programs, NYCEAC assists people 60 and over who are abused or at risk of abuse – as well as their family members, friends, caregivers, and witnesses - by helping to improve how professionals, organizations and systems respond to their needs.

NYCEAC utilizes a multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach to coordinate care and create solutions for the growing number of complex cases of elder abuse in NYC. NYCEAC coordinates and facilitates two teams, one in Manhattan and one in Brooklyn. Although the two teams are designed differently, they both utilize a case consultation model to improve the health and quality of life for older adults. This is accomplished through: reviewing, discussing and coordinating cases of elder abuse and neglect; identifying systemic and resource problems that can be brought to the attention of others for strategizing and intervention; and identifying research needs. (For more information about the NYCEAC's role on the team, contact Robin Roberts at 718-722-4839 or [rroberts@nyceac.com](mailto:rroberts@nyceac.com) or see URL: <http://nyceac.com>)

*Brooklyn MDT representatives:* Risa Breckman, LCSW, Deputy Director, NYCEAC; Robin Roberts, MDT Coordinator

## **NYC Human Resources Administration**

### *Adult Protective Services*

Adult Protective Services (APS) is a State-mandated program which each local Social Services District must provide to persons eighteen years and older. Adults who are: 1) mentally and/or physically impaired; 2) unable to manage the activities of daily living or protect themselves from abuse or exploitation due to their impairments; and 3) have no one willing and able to assist them in a responsible manner are eligible for APS services. At the current time approximately sixty per cent of New York City APS clients are sixty years of age or older. Many APS clients are subject to abuse, neglect and financial exploitation. APS is mandated by State law to make a police report whenever it believes that a crime has been committed against an APS client. (For more information about Brooklyn APS services, contact Ron Marshall at 718-722-4824 or [marshall@hra.nyc.gov](mailto:marshall@hra.nyc.gov) see URL: <http://home.nyc.gov/html/hra/html/directory/adult.shtml>)

*Brooklyn MDT representatives:* Ron Marshall, Deputy Director, Brooklyn APS; and Mario Harper, Brooklyn APS DA Liaison

## **The Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging**

Brookdale seeks to improve the health, safety and quality of life of older adults in distressed urban communities. To achieve this ambitious mission, Brookdale strengthens the organizations, individuals and systems that serve these needy populations. Specifically, Brookdale nurtures the development of human services professionals through formal education and other learning opportunities, is a leader in the field of elder law and advocacy, and uses research to influence policy and practice in ways that lead to tangible improvements in peoples' lives. For more information please contact Jean Callahan at (212) 396-7822 or go to: [www.brookdale.org](http://www.brookdale.org).

*Brooklyn MDT representative:* Jean Callahan Esq., MSW, Director, The Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging

## **The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Elder Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Research at the Hebrew Home at Riverdale**

The Weinberg Center is the nation's first comprehensive regional elder abuse shelter serving eligible seniors 60-years and older. The Center provides emergency short-term housing, healthcare services, legal advocacy, financial maintenance, and support services to victims of elder abuse. A call to 1-800-56-SENIOR provides prompt access to the Weinberg Center team where the need for services and/or emergency elder abuse shelter is assessed. (For more information, contact Joy Solomon at 718-581-1272 or at [jsolomon@hebrewhome.org](mailto:jsolomon@hebrewhome.org) and see URL: [www.hebrewhome.org](http://www.hebrewhome.org))

*Brooklyn MDT representative:* Joy Solomon, Director and Managing Attorney; Linda Leeven, Social Worker; The Weinberg Center

*Brooklyn MDT representative:* Dr. Valerie Abel, clinical psychologist/neuropsychologist.

## **Weill Cornell Medical College/New York-Presbyterian Hospital**

*Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology*

Weill Cornell Medical College/New York-Presbyterian Hospital's Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology aims to improve the quality of life for older people through the integration of high quality clinical care, teaching geriatric medicine to clinical trainees and advancing knowledge through scientific research. The Division provides direct care to older patients, including elder abuse victims, through its two out-patient programs (the Manhattan-based out-patient geriatric primary care practice, the *Sherwood Irving Wright Medical Center on Aging*, and a Manhattan-based house call program) and through its in-patient programs at New York Presbyterian Hospital. The Division's *Unit for the Study of Elder Abuse and Neglect* brings scientific rigor to the field of elder abuse and neglect. The Division's faculty have published some of the most commonly used conceptual frameworks and guidelines for professionals in the field and teach widely on many topics related to elder abuse and neglect to professionals throughout the world. The faculty have also developed innovative elder abuse programs, including providing leadership to the

NYC Elder Abuse Center. (For more information, contact Risa Breckman at 212-2746-1674 or at [rbreckm@nyceac.com](mailto:rbreckm@nyceac.com) and see URL: <http://www.cornellaging.com/elderabuse/>)

*Brooklyn MDT representatives:* Dr. Mark Lachs, Co-Chief; Dr. Veronica LoFaso, Educational Director; and Risa Breckman, LCSW, Director, Social Work Programs and Education