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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 91 LCM-167

Date: September 18, 1991

Division: Adult Services

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Protective Services for Adults: Public Education Materials

ATTACHMENTS: None

This is to advise you that public education materials concerning Protective Services for Adults (PSA) have been developed and will be released to the local districts over the next several weeks.

As you may be aware, in March of 1989, the New York Public Welfare Association in a report entitled "Protective Services for Adults (PSA) Service Delivery Model: A Viable, Cost Efficient Alternative to a State Central Registry" recommended that the Department develop materials that the districts could use in implementing a PSA public education plan. In response to this recommendation the Department convened a PSA Advisory Group to develop the suggested materials. The Advisory Group included representatives from several local districts, and Department staff from the Division of Adult Services, the Division of Legal Affairs, the Office of Human Resources Development and the Public Information Office. A contract was executed with Brookdale Center on Aging of Hunter College to produce the materials. Following is a summary of the materials you will be receiving:

- 1) A 20 minute informational video which presents case examples and discusses issues such as an adult's right to self determination versus the state's responsibility to intervene when persons are incapable of protecting themselves. This video will be appropriate for showing to the general public, community groups and professional agencies. Since the video will likely generate discussion, we recommend that a PSA staff person be available to answer specific questions on PSA's role in the community.

- 2) A booklet which describes the PSA client characteristics and service delivery options. This booklet can be used with the video, since it provides more details on several of the PSA interventions depicted. It also could be used as a resource tool for professionals in community agencies.
- 3) A brochure for the general public entitled "Protecting Adults from Abuse and Neglect." This brochure outlines PSA eligibility and services and should be distributed to the general public, through hospitals, doctor offices, senior citizen centers, libraries, etc. The brochure provides space for a local phone number for access to PSA and also references the Department's toll free Adult Abuse and Neglect phone number. Please refer to 89 LCM-213 for information on the Helpline. This brochure will be available in both English and Spanish.
- 4) A brochure for professionals entitled "Protecting Adults: A Community Responsibility." This brochure describes the need for coordination in providing services to elderly and impaired adults. It should be distributed to agencies representing the areas of aging, health, mental health, legal and law enforcement.
- 5) A poster entitled "Sometimes Adults Need Protection, Too" which will list the general PSA criteria and refer people to the stamped local district phone number or to the toll free number. The poster should be distributed to the general public, and the community through locations such as grocery stores, libraries, hospitals and service agencies. It is available in both English and Spanish.

The above materials will be distributed directly by The Brookdale Center on Aging of Hunter College to your Director of Services. We trust that these materials will assist districts in their efforts to publicize services available to protect elderly and impaired adults from abuse and neglect. We request that you display and distribute the materials to appropriate agencies in your community.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact your district's adult services representative as follows:

Kathleen Crowe	1-800-342-3715, extension 432-2996
Michael Monahan	1-800-342-3715, extension 432-2864
Janet Morrissey	1-800-342-3715, extension 432-2997
Irv Abelman	(212) 804-1247

Thank you for your cooperation.

William E. Gould
Acting Deputy Commissioner
Division of Adult Services