

## **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS: INTERVIEW GUIDES**

### **Interview Questions for State Administrators**

1. Roughly, how many cases of abuse involving opioids would you say that your state has handled in the past year?
2. Did the number increase, decrease, or are they about the same in the last year, before COVID-19? Why do you think so?
3. In these cases, was it most likely that the victim is misusing opioids, or was the perpetrator misusing, or were both the victim and perpetrator misusing opioids?
4. What are some characteristics of these opioid cases?
5. Does your state have a policy or set of procedures to follow when cases involve opioids? If yes, please describe. If no, please describe how your staff respond to opioid cases.
6. What are the challenges encountered in investigating the allegations of abuse of these cases involving opioids?
7. Was your APS program able to provide any intervention(s) that assisted these clients to achieve increased safety and relief from continued abuse? If yes, please describe intervention(s) provided and specifically how intervention(s) assisted the victims. If no, what barriers blocked efforts to assist the victims?
8. Overall, do you find that substantiated cases of abuse involving opioids are generally more, less, or equally as difficult to intervene as other types of allegations?
9. Is it easier or harder to substantiate these cases?
10. When opioids are involved, is abuse, neglect, or exploitation easier or harder to miss than abuse, neglect, or exploitation when opioids are not involved?
11. Are there ways that APS and other agencies should be working cases differently when opioids are involved?
12. Do you have recommendations regarding how suspected victims of abuse involving opioids can be better served? That is, how can these cases be better handled?
13. What are ways to improve prevention of the abuse of older people when opioids are involved?
14. Are there any other comments you would like to make about cases of abuse involving opioids in general?

## Interview Questions for Local APS Caseworkers

1. Roughly, how many cases of abuse involving opioids would you say that you handled in the past year?
2. How were these clients in these cases harmed by the abuse that involved opioids?
3. What were the long-term impacts of the abuse on the clients?
4. Did the clients or the perpetrators ever have other allegations of abuse?
5. What challenges, if any, did you encounter in investigating the allegations of abuse of these particular clients?
6. Was your APS program able to provide any intervention(s) that assisted these clients to achieve increased safety and relief from continued abuse? If yes, please describe intervention(s) provided and specifically how intervention(s) assisted the victims. If no, what barriers blocked efforts to assist the victims?
7. Do you have any thoughts or observations from these cases about what might have prevented the abuse by the perpetrators from occurring?
8. Overall, do you find that substantiated cases of abuse involving opioids are generally more, less, or equally as difficult to work as other types of allegations?
9. Is it easier or harder to substantiate these cases?
10. Do you find that intervening and achieving a positive outcome is harder for these cases?
11. When opioids are involved, is abuse easier to miss than abuse when opioids are not involved?
12. Based on your experience working these cases, are there ways that APS and other agencies should be handling them differently when opioids are involved? In other words, what are ways to improve prevention of the abuse of older people when opioids are involved?
13. Do you have recommendations regarding how suspected victims of abuse involving opioids can be better served or how these cases can be better handled?
14. Are there any other comments you would like to make about cases involving opioids?