

OVS/VOCA Elder Abuse Interventions and Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team (E-MDT) Initiative Overview

Background

Enhanced Multidisciplinary Teams (E-MDTs) investigate and intervene in complex cases of elder abuse. They bring together professionals from various disciplines, including but not limited to Adult Protective Services, aging services, health and human services, and law enforcement to provide an effective and efficient means of addressing complex cases of abuse of older adults (aged 60 and older). The enhancement comes with access to forensic accountants, geriatric psychiatrists (or other qualified mental health professionals), and community legal services.

The E-MDT model was piloted in eight counties from 2012-2016 using federal funds. During 2016-2017, New York State provided funding to sustain the existing E-MDTs and establish or enhance teams in five additional counties, for a total of thirteen. Building upon this success, in 2017 the NYS Office for Victim Services and NYS Office for the Aging partnered to establish and implement the OVS/VOCA Elder Abuse Interventions and E-MDT Initiative. The E-MDT Initiative is coordinated Statewide by Lifespan of Greater Rochester.

Expanded Access

The E-MDT Initiative continues to expand, with the goal of having a team in every county by October 1, 2020. The county-based E-MDTs are being implemented through an E-MDT Regional Hub model, in which a host organization is responsible for E-MDT establishment, coordination, and implementation in each of the counties in its E-MDT region. There are 11 regions that have been established for this Initiative (see attached table). As of September 2019, there are 39 counties in seven E-MDT Regional Hubs with operational E-MDTs funded through this Initiative. A Request for Application (RFA) process will establish the remaining E-MDT Regional Hub organizations during 2019 - 2020.

Services and Components

Services provided to abuse victims through E-MDT interventions include information about and referral to other types of services (e.g., victim service programs, legal services, etc.) and individual advocacy (e.g., return of personal property, assistance with applying for public benefits, etc.). E-MDT Coordinators provide case consultation on cases as well as access to consultation services such as a forensic accountant, geriatric psychiatrist (or other qualified mental health professional), and civil legal attorney, as appropriate and available. Additionally, as part of the E-MDT Initiative, Lifespan of Greater Rochester holds monthly webinars on financial exploitation.

Professionals seeking more information should contact the Hub agency covering their county (see attached table).

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E-MDT Hub Regions, Counties, and Coordinators (September 2019)

Counties in italics are in development as part of this Initiative.

E-MDT Hub Region	Counties	Hub Agency Coordinator
Region 1 – Western NY	Cattaraugus Chautauqua Erie Niagara Wyoming	Center for Elder Law and Justice 438 Main St., #1200 Buffalo, NY 14202 (716) 853-3087 https://elderjusticenyny.org/
Region 2 – Finger Lakes	Allegany Cayuga Chemung Genesee Livingston Monroe Ontario Orleans Schuyler Seneca <i>Steuben</i> Yates Wayne	Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc. 1900 S. Clinton Ave. Rochester, NY 14618 (585) 244-8400 https://www.lifespan-roch.org/
Region 3 – Central NY	Cortland Herkimer Madison Oneida Onondaga Oswego Tompkins	Vera House, Inc. 723 James St. Syracuse, NY 13203 (315) 425-0818 https://www.verahouse.org/
Region 4 – Southern Tier	Broome <i>Chenango</i> Delaware Otsego <i>Tioga</i>	Action for Older Persons, Inc. 200 Plaza Dr. Suite B Vestal, NY 13850 (607) 722-1251 https://actionforolderpersons.org/
Region 5 – North Country	Clinton Essex Franklin <i>Jefferson</i> <i>Lewis</i> <i>St. Lawrence</i>	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg 46 Flynn Ave. Suite 612 Plattsburgh, NY 12901 (518) 566-0944 https://www.rcdony.org/
Region 6 – Mohawk Region *	<i>Fulton</i> <i>Hamilton</i> <i>Montgomery</i> <i>Saratoga</i> <i>Schoharie</i> <i>Warren</i> <i>Washington</i>	TBD (Anticipated to be launched in 2019 - 2020)
Region 7 – Capital Region *	<i>Albany</i> <i>Columbia</i> <i>Greene</i> <i>Rensselaer</i> <i>Schenectady</i>	TBD (Anticipated to be launched in 2019 - 2020)

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E-MDT Hub Region	Counties	Hub Agency Coordinator
Region 8 – Hudson Valley *	<i>Dutchess Orange Rockland Sullivan Ulster</i>	Regional E-MDT TBD (Anticipated to be launched in 2019 - 2020) <u>Current: Ulster E-MDT</u> Jewish Family Services of Ulster County 280 Wall St. Kingston, NY 12401 (845) 338-2980 https://jfsulster.org/
Region 9 – Metro North *	<i>Putnam Westchester</i>	TBD (Anticipated to be launched in 2019 - 2020)
Region 10 – New York City	Brooklyn Bronx Manhattan Queens Staten Island	New York City Elder Abuse Center 525 East 68th Street, Box 39 New York, NY 10065 (212) 746-7211 https://nyceac.org/
Region 11 – Long Island	Nassau Suffolk	The Safe Center of Long Island 15 Grumman Rd W #1000 Bethpage, NY 11714 (516) 465-4700 https://www.tscli.org/

* In Regional Hubs currently without an E-MDT Coordinator TBD (except where noted), access to case consultation services and a forensic accountant, as appropriate, is available by contacting Allison Granata, E-MDT Program Manager at Lifespan of Greater Rochester, at 585-287-6440.