



SeniorLAW Center

Protecting The Rights of Older Pennsylvanians



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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**SeniorLAW Center – CARIE
Receive American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding
to Serve Older Women Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.**

Philadelphia, PA – SeniorLAW Center and the Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly (CARIE) have been awarded \$200,000 from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to respond to violence and sexual assault against older women. This grant is one of 21 awarded in Pennsylvania with \$3.4 million in federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

The two agencies will hire new staff to enhance coordination and increase direct services to older victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Philadelphia. The agencies plan to work collaboratively to convene various stakeholders and assist in developing and delivering cross-training about the critical social and legal issues victims face to pursue a comprehensive approach to the needs of victims.

SeniorLAW Center and CARIE have extensive experience working with vulnerable and underserved senior populations, including victims of domestic violence. This project will combat stereotypes of older women, and empower these women with resources to provide protection from and responses to domestic violence and sexual assault, provide them an advocate, counselor, and access to holistic services that are not being provided by any other organization in our community. Through creation and wide dissemination of “Domestic Violence Doesn’t End at 60” publication and critical information via the web, electronic newsletter, community outreach and educational information in prominent minority languages to the general public, criminal justice, and victim service, legal service, aging network, health care and other relevant professional communities

Pennsylvania’s Recovery funding, administered through the Pennsylvania Commission of Crime and Delinquency supports the STOP Violence Against Women grant program, created under the Violence Against Women Act of 1994. It encourages partnerships between criminal and juvenile justice systems and victim advocacy organizations.

If you would like more information about SeniorLAW Center and/or CARIE, please visit www.SeniorLAWCenter.org; www.carie.org.

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SeniorLAW Center is a legal service and victim service provider, with more than 30 years of serving and advocating for victims of violence. Founded in 1978, SeniorLAW Center is a nonprofit community organization with the primary mission of protecting the rights and interests of vulnerable senior citizens in our community, including victims of domestic violence, assault, stalking, financial exploitation and other crimes. Its multi-faceted services and programs address wide-ranging areas of law critical to the lives of older victims, and staff has expertise in housing (both homeowner and tenants' rights), family law, consumer protection, public benefits, economic security, financial exploitation, and health care. SeniorLAW serves as a leader on legal services, victim services, aging and immigrant and refugee organizations, and have strong working relationships with well over 100 other service providers throughout our community.

CARIE, established in 1977, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for vulnerable senior citizens through advocacy, education and action. CARIE pursues this through its many programs, including the CARIE LINE, a resource for a wide range of people and institutions seeking to resolve elder care issues, the Philadelphia Long Term Care Ombudsman program, SMP program (seniors helping seniors recognize health care fraud), education and training programs, legislative and policy advocacy and community outreach and special events.