

# LIFELONG RESPECT

## Commitment

Lifelong Respect is about raising awareness of developing and maintaining respectful relationships as we age. Council on the Ageing (COTA) Tasmania Lifelong Respect Program raises awareness to prevent the abuse of older people.

Knowledge is important. It helps change thoughts, behaviours and systems. On this World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) 2026 we ask that you consider finding out more about what elder abuse is, how to prevent it, and where to get help and support.

### COTA Tasmania calls on investment in:



**Primary Prevention** as a long-term funded strategy for change.



**Cultures** that promote intergenerational understanding, harmony and inclusivity and rejects ageism, violence and abuse in all forms.



**Organisations** that develop systems and policies to prevent and respond to abuse.



**Legal** supports that safeguard all people.



**Cooperation and partnerships** across sectors in support of prevention.



**Education and information** that raises awareness with individuals, organisations (public, private, business) and through the media.



**Inclusion of older people with lived experience** in all aspects of policy, education, awareness and community initiatives.



**Research** that supports ways to reduce all forms of elder abuse and ageism and provides policy, strategic guidance and data analysis.

### This Commitment reflects COTA Tasmania's priorities of:

A Rights-based approach  
Prevention and early intervention  
System navigation  
Financial security and autonomy  
Accessibility and participation

### It supports:

- The Tasmanian Government *Lifelong Respect: Tasmania's Strategy to end the abuse of older people 2023-2029*.
- The Tasmanian Government *A Respectful, Age-Friendly Island: Older Tasmanian Action Plan 2025-2029*.
- The Federal Government *National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People 2026-2036*.
- The Tasmanian Law Reform Institute (TLRI) *Safeguarding Against the Abuse of Older Tasmanians Research Paper 9*, September 2025.

**Make your commitment: [www.cotatas.org.au](http://www.cotatas.org.au)**

CEO, COTA Tas

*Brigid Wain*

COTA Tas - Older Voices  
for Change Advocates



**Older Voices  
for Change** Your story can change  
lives and communities.

