



# Perpetrators in Disguise - Preventing Human Trafficking of Vulnerable Adults



## FEATURING:

- Free 1 Hour CE

- Best practices and actionable steps to help healthcare professionals recognize, prevent, and respond to the trafficking and exploitation of vulnerable adults

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM ET

## Live Stream Series

(Online Synchronous Training)

## COMPLIMENTARY EVENT



Please register online at  
[www.ceucreationsinc.com](http://www.ceucreationsinc.com)

## 1 CREDIT HOUR APPROVED FOR:

- **Social Workers**  
ASWB ACE – 1 CE Credit  
New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work – 1 Contact Hour
- **Counselors**  
NBCC ACEP – 1 Contact Hour  
New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners – 1 Contact Hour
- **Nurses**  
California Board of Registered Nursing – 1 Contact Hour
- **Case Managers**  
CCMC – 1 Contact Hour

*Attendance or applied credit certificate available for other credentials*

**Please make sure to check with your own state board to ensure transferability of CE credit.**

## PRESENTED BY:



**Anna Thomas, POST**  
certified instructor and  
manager of the Division  
of Aging Services with  
the Georgia Department  
of Human Services



**Shawonda Wright, BSW,**  
CACTS, Forensic Liaison  
Specialist with the  
Georgia Department of  
Human Services

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For more information on the course, accommodations for disability, grievances, or any other concerns, please contact  
CEU Creations at [support@ceucreationsinc.com](mailto:support@ceucreationsinc.com).

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## AGENDA

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM ET:	Log In and Virtual Networking
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET:	Presentation
1:00 PM ET:	Closing/Evaluation

Every day, hospital patients are unknowingly discharged into harmful and unsafe environments. Unlicensed personal care homes, boarding houses, and transitional housing facilities target discharge planners, care teams, and social workers, positioning themselves as convenient options for patients who are difficult to place. However, once patients are placed in these facilities, they often face neglect, exploitation, and even trafficking. In this presentation, we will examine how vulnerable adults are trafficked in these settings and why these homes continue to operate unnoticed. We will also provide best practices and actionable steps to help you safeguard your patients.

### BY THE END OF THIS SESSION, THE PARTICIPANT WILL BE ABLE TO:

1. Describe the tactics used by unlicensed personal care homes to exploit vulnerable adults, including methods used to operate without detection.
2. Explain the role of healthcare-based social workers in identifying and preventing human trafficking among vulnerable adult populations.
3. Discover the importance of collaboration with Adult Protective Services (APS) in identifying, reporting, and addressing instances of vulnerable adult abuse and trafficking.
4. Identify the appropriate procedures, channels, and contacts for reporting suspected abuse or trafficking of vulnerable adults.

Course Interaction and Technical Requirements: This live webinar is fully interactive. Attendees may ask and answer questions throughout the presentation and participate in instructor-led discussions. A computer or mobile device is required. Zoom account is not required. You will receive an email approximately 24 hours prior to the start of the event with a link to the webinar.

***In order to receive credit, you must log in on time, attend the entire presentation, and complete an evaluation within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the event. Attendance log and Zoom analytics will be reviewed by the CE Director. Certificates will be provided in approximately 5 business days.***

Target audience: Social workers, counselors, nurses, case managers, and other healthcare professionals.

**SOCIAL WORKERS:** CEU Creations, #1239, is approved as an ACE provider to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Regulatory boards are the final authority on courses accepted for continuing education credit. ACE provider approval period: [11/22/24-11/22/27]. Social workers completing this course receive 1 General continuing education credit.

CEU Creations, Inc. is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #SW-0616. This activity is approved for 1 contact hour.

**COUNSELORS:** 1 Contact Hour



CEU Creations has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 6941. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. CEU Creations is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

CEU Creations, Inc. is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed mental health counselors. #MHC-0199. This activity is approved for 1 contact hour.

**NURSES:** 1 Contact Hour - CEU Creations is an approved provider of nursing CEs through the California Board of Registered Nursing. Provider number: CEP17905. All states retain their own licensing authority through their own boards. Please make sure to check with your own state board to ensure transferability of the CE credits.

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## PRESENTER BIOS:



### **Anna Thomas, POST certified instructor and manager of the Division of Aging Services with the Georgia Department of Human Services**

Anna Thomas is a POST certified instructor, the manager of the Division of Aging Services- Forensic Special Initiatives Unit and most recently a Forensic Specialist with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Crimes Against the Elderly and Disabled Task Force (CADE). CADE's mission is to protect elder and disabled adults from abuse, neglect, and exploitation, prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation of elder and disabled adults, and to prosecute offenders.

As a graduate of the University of Georgia, Anna holds a degree in Criminal Justice and a degree in Psychology as well as a Master of Science in Gerontology from Brenau University. After interning with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Anna began her career as an Investigator for the Forsyth County District Attorney's Office. For 5 years she was assigned to a trial team that mainly handled crimes against persons.

In 2008, Anna became a Victim Advocate at the Hall County District Attorney's Office where she served on the Child Fatality Review Board and the Hall County Domestic Violence Task Force. For 8 years, Anna assisted victims of crime with service referral and guidance through court and the criminal justice system, and aided prosecutors at trial.

In 2016, Anna transitioned to high-level victim advocacy focused on older adults and adults with disabilities. Currently, her work at the Division of Aging Services and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation centers on training primary and secondary responders how to recognize and respond to elder and disabled adult abuse, researching gaps in current victim services, developing new laws to protect vulnerable adults, and public outreach. Her most recent project is the launch of state-wide Elder Abuse Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs).

Anna serves on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's Human Trafficking Task Force, the National Network of State Elder Justice Coalitions Steering Committee and is an instructor for the Georgia Victim Advocate Academy.

### **Shawonda Wright, BSW, CACTS, Forensic Liaison Specialist with the Georgia Department of Human Services**

Shawonda Wright has over 20 years' experience in the Social Work profession serving at-risk children and adults. She is always eager to serve others and works collaboratively to achieve goals. Specialized skills are in Protective Services, Public Health, Mental Health, Military/Veterans, and Substance Abuse areas. Skilled in leading and training social service professionals. Strong Advocate for client needs with a consistent record of creating strong and positive rapport with clients, team members, and community partners. She is currently working in collaboration with the GBI, which has formed the Crimes Against Disabled Adults and Elder Task Force to identify and address system gaps and develop process improvements to protect Georgia's at-risk adults. In addition, Mrs. Wright is the lead project developer and instructor for FACT (Facility At-Risk Adult Crimes Training). FACT is a training curriculum designed for hospital staff (discharge planners, nurses, social workers, case managers, home health providers, etc.). This training is to aid them in working collaboratively with Adult Protective Services and in how to best serve their at-risk adult patients.

