

El Dorado County Elder Protection Network

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Senior Legal Services

Topics

- ◆ Operation of the Elder Protection Network
- ◆ Sample Cases
- ◆ Model program
- ◆ Senior Legal Services

Goal of the Elder Protection Network

“To increase the
safety, health, and independence
of seniors
in El Dorado County.”

Why Do Elders Need Special Protection?

- ◆ Targets of physical, financial and emotional abuse by others.
- ◆ Decline in ability to:
 - Care for self
 - Manage finances
 - Transport to essential services
 - Resist undue influence

Senior Population

El Dorado County has the second highest percentage of seniors in California, and that percentage is projected to grow in the next decade.

Elder Protection Components

NUTRITION

MEDICAL

TRANSPORTATION

FINANCIAL

CIVIL-LEGAL

CARE PROVIDERS

INFO AND
ASSISTANCE

PROTECTION

INVESTIGATION

HOUSING

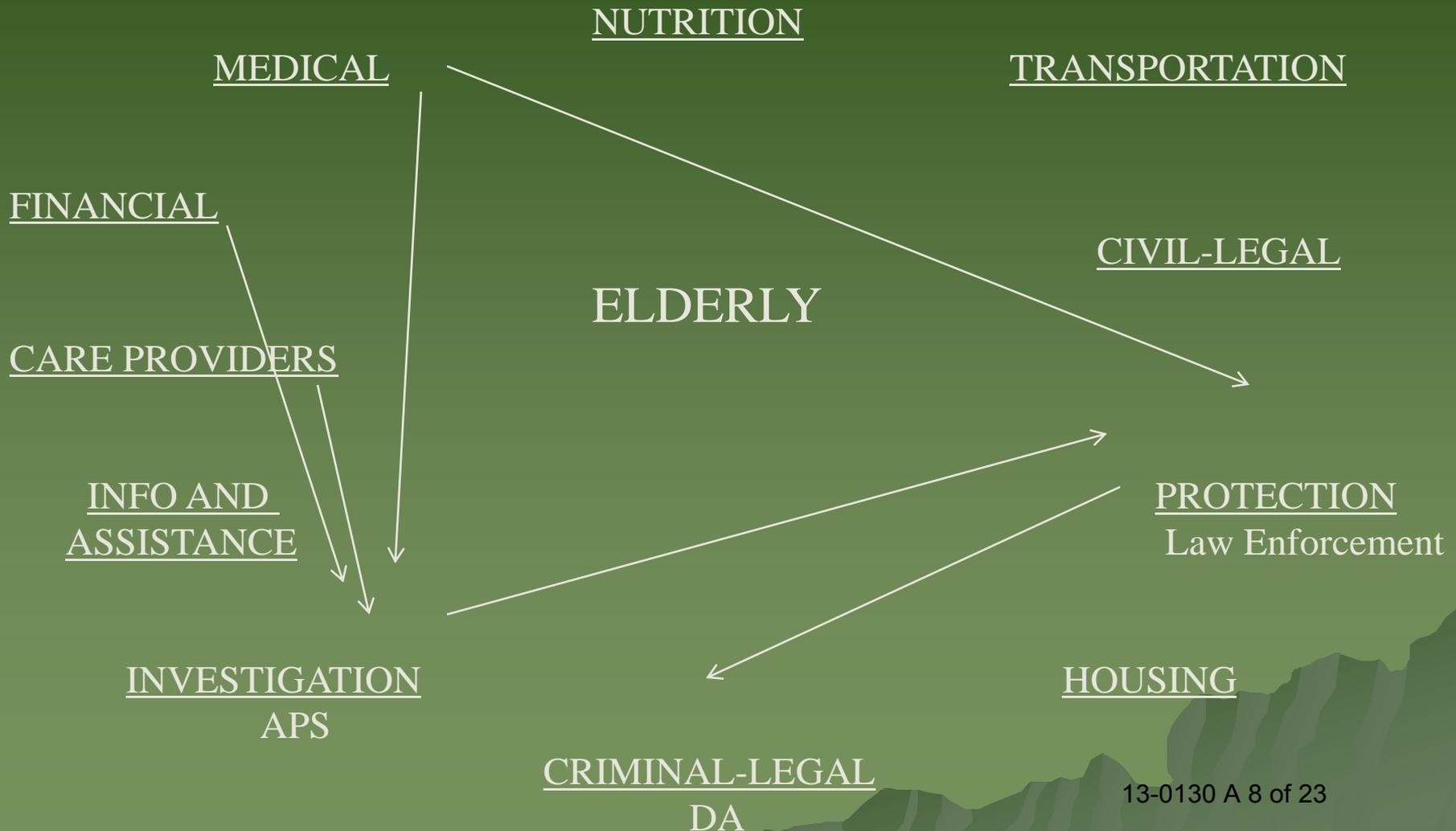
CRIMINAL-LEGAL

Most CA counties have a mixture of governmental , private non-profit, and private for-profit service providers requiring the elderly access services individually.

Limitations: availability, cost, competence of senior, lack of information



State-wide, cross-reporting of elder abuse is most often limited to governmental services such as adult protective services, law enforcement, district attorney and mental health. Mandated reporting of abuse has improved this picture. Cross-communication regarding other needs of the elderly and between private service providers is rare.



Barriers to Cross-Communication Between Service Providers in other counties

- ◆ Legalities
- ◆ Lack of knowledge and training
- ◆ Lack of interpersonal relationships
- ◆ Competition for resources (grants, volunteers, space, publicity, etc.)

El Dorado County Elder Protection Services

An Integrated Approach

NUTRITION

Home-delivered meals

Nutrition sites

TRANSPORTATION

Dial-A-Ride

Senior Shuttle

MEDICAL

HICAP, VA, YANA

Medi-Cal case workers

Mental health, peer counseling

FINANCIAL

VA, AARP tax assistance

Public Guardian

HEAP, weatherization

CIVIL-LEGAL

Senior Legal Services

ELDERLY

CAREPROVIDERS

IHSS/Public Authority

Family Caregiver Support

Adult Day Care

MSSP

INFO AND ASSISTANCE

Senior Centers

INVESTIGATION

Adult Protective Services

CAPE

PROTECTION

Law Enforcement

Public Guardian/ County Counsel

LTC Ombudsman

HOUSING

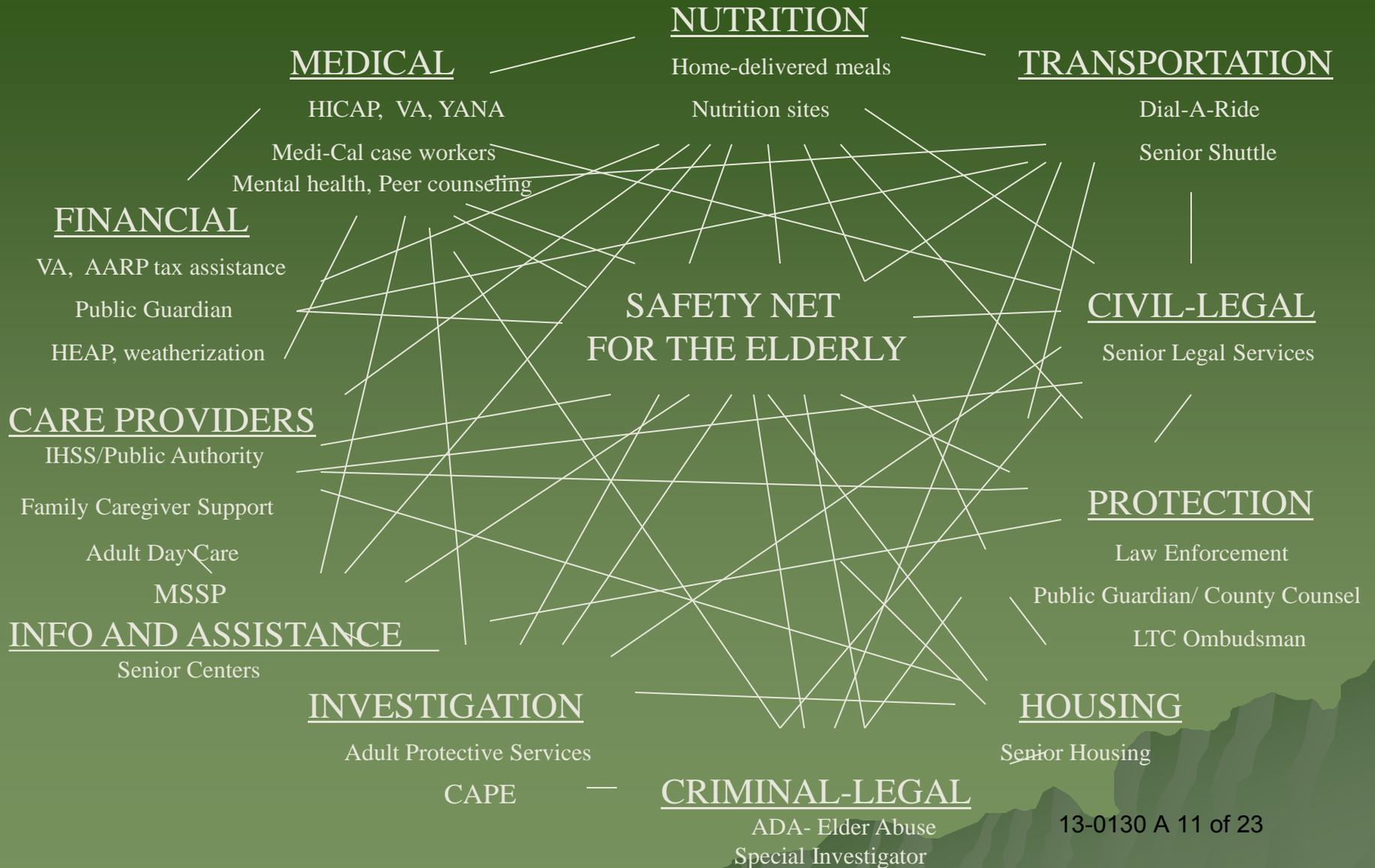
Senior Housing

CRIMINAL-LEGAL

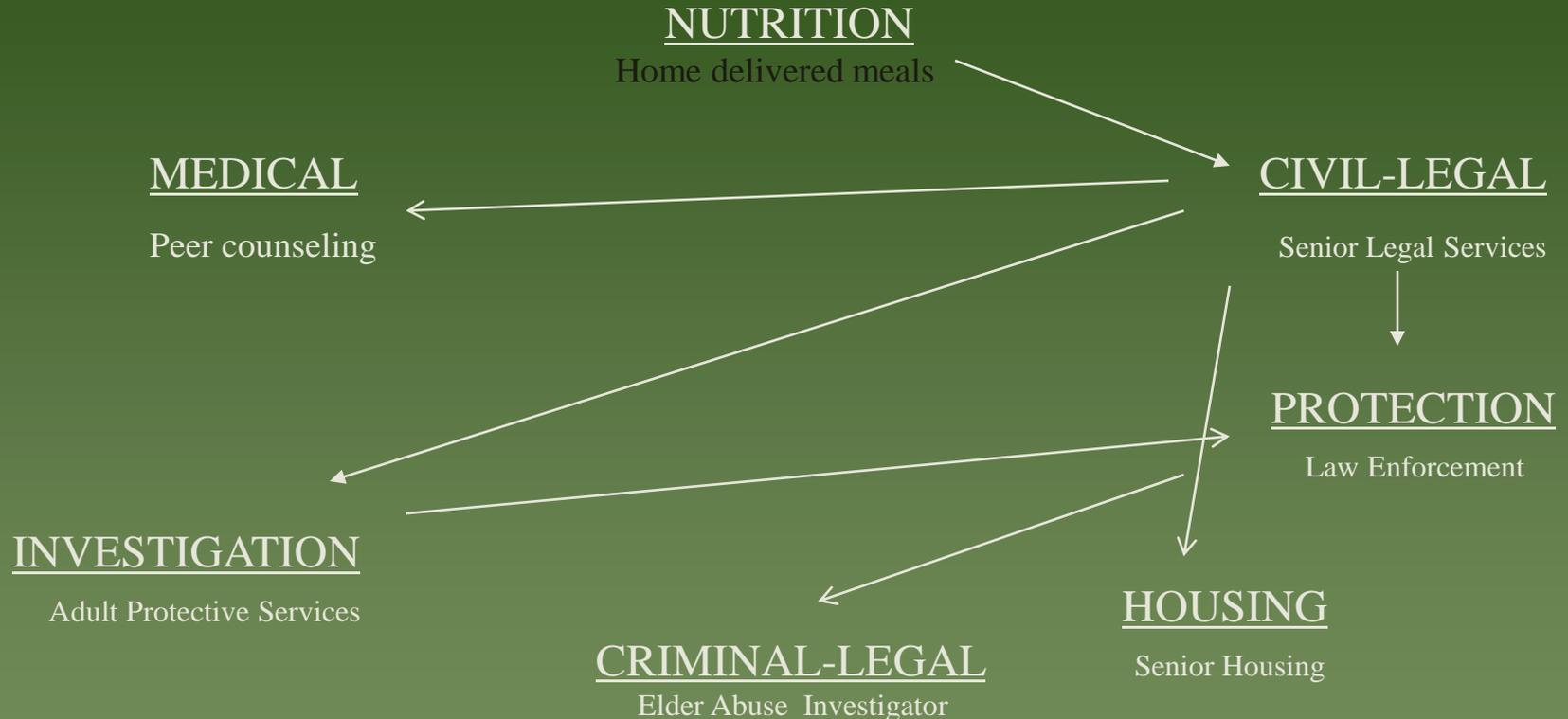
ADA- Elder Abuse

Special Investigator

Thanks to interdisciplinary teamwork agreements, these county programs and services cross-report and communicate with each other, resulting in fast, coordinated responses meeting specific needs of the elderly.



Case #1: Luella in Diamond Springs



Issue: Daughter moves back in with elderly mother, convinces mother to add name to home deed and sign loan papers, then leaves with all the home equity. Mother faces foreclosure.

Case #2: Barbara in El Dorado Hills Care Facility

CAREPROVIDERS

Family Caregiver Support

CIVIL-LEGAL

Senior Legal Services

PROTECTION

Public Guardian/County Counsel

LTC OMBUDSMAN

INVESTIGATION

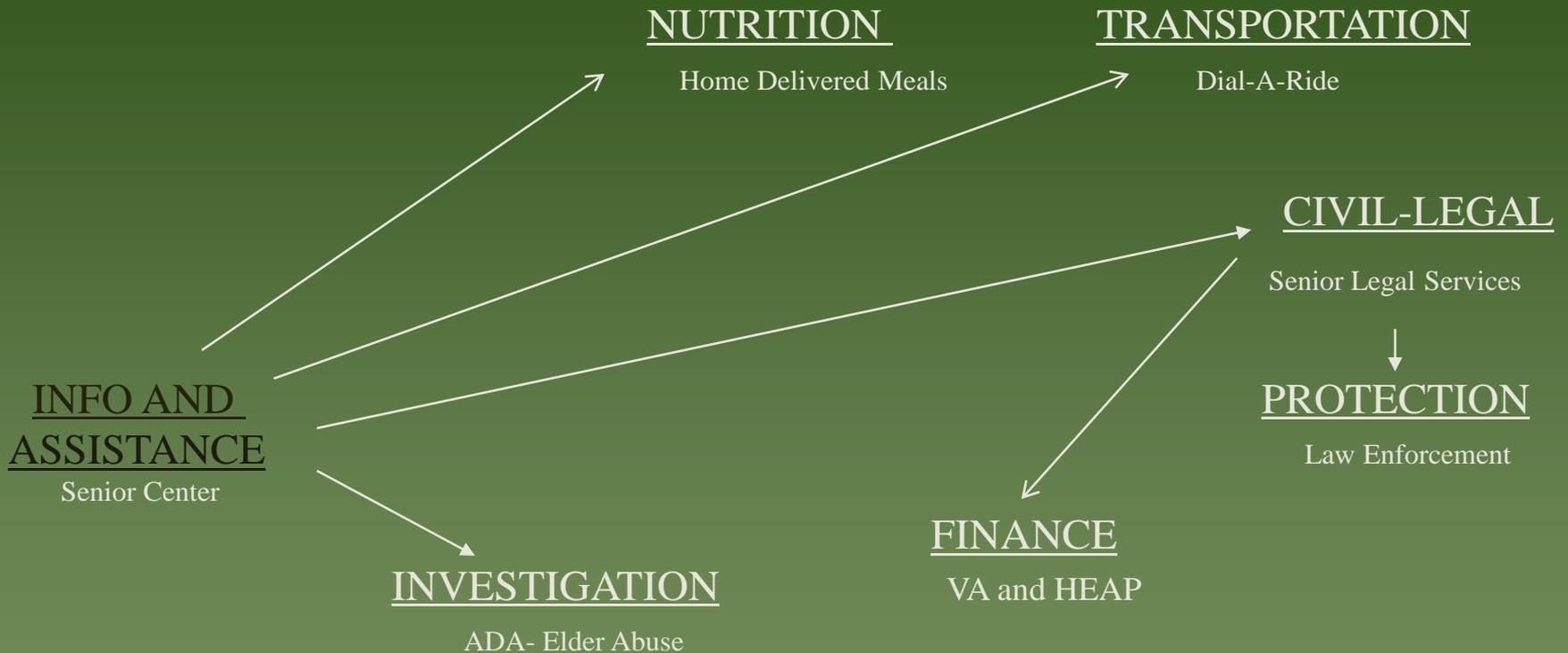
Adult Protective Services

CRIMINAL – LEGAL

ADA – Elder Abuse Investigator

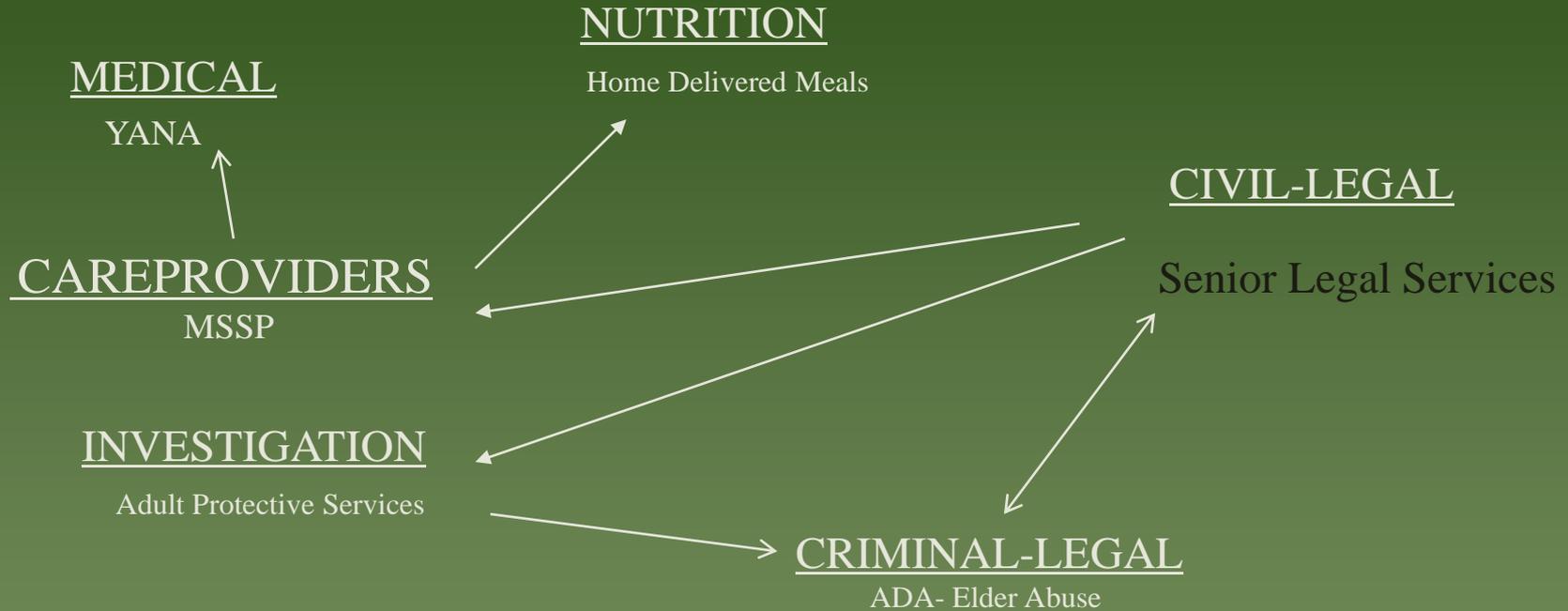
Issue: Daughter insisting on improper care plan and questionable medications - threatening to remove incapacitated mother from facility.

Case #3: Ed in So. Lake Tahoe



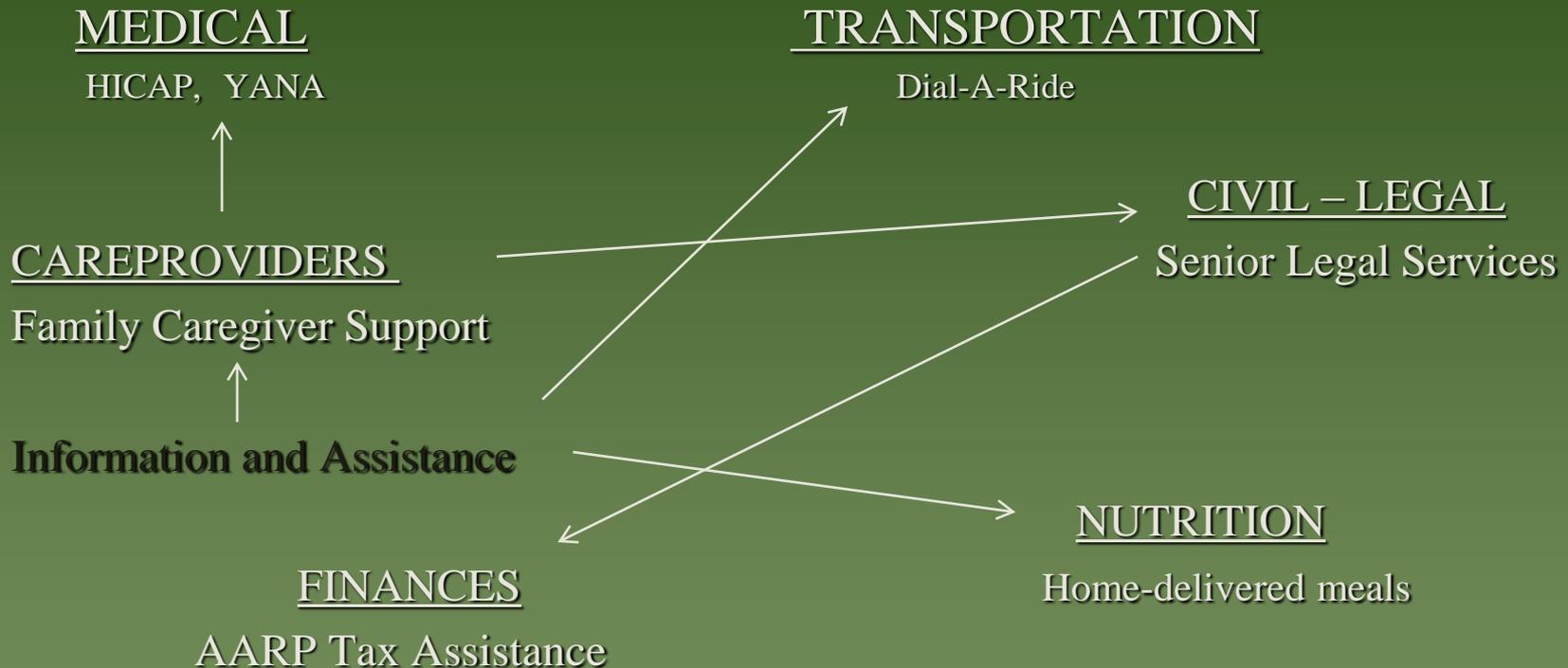
Issue: Senior with terminal illness took in two tenants in exchange for home care. One was a young relative and one was her boyfriend just out of jail. Took over house. No care provided. He called I & A from his locked bedroom where he was afraid to leave.

Case #4: Della in Placerville



Issue: 70 year old senior tricked into deeding her house to a stranger.

Case #5– Rosa in Georgetown



Rosa’s husband controls all the family finances and all assets are in his name. He dies unexpectedly. Rosa is elderly, financially unsophisticated, and has no family in the area. A son in So. Cal calls looking for help for his mother.

EDC Senior Protection Network is a model for the state.

- ◆ County service providers allow for:
 - Integration of services
 - Communication and referrals between providers
 - Continuum of care
 - Rapid response
 - Local control
 - Transparency and accountability
 - Employees and volunteers with expertise, training, and long-term commitment

EPU = Elder Protection Unit

- ◆ Monthly meeting of representatives from the county Elder Protection Network service providers.
- ◆ Chaired by Supervisor Ron Briggs
- ◆ Discuss specific cases, coordinate, plan and evaluate responses
- ◆ Ongoing education regarding new legislation and improved elder protection methods.

Senior Legal Services

- ◆ Education
 - Seminars and workshops
 - Self-help and instructional materials
- ◆ Client services
 - Advice, advocacy, assistance
 - 60 yrs +, EDC resident
- ◆ Home and hospital visits
 - So. Lake Tahoe and El Dorado Hills
- ◆ Partnerships with private firms to prosecute elder financial fraud against large institutions

Our Clients.....

- ◆ 200 client appointments per month
- ◆ 50 phone calls per day
- ◆ Average age 75 years
- ◆ 62% female
- ◆ 57% low income
- ◆ 36% live alone
- ◆ 17% impaired



Types of Cases

- ◆ Elder Abuse **

 - Restraining orders, evictions, litigation

- ◆ Planning for Incapacity and Death*

- ◆ Financial and Medical Powers of Attorney*

- ◆ Health care/public benefits issues

- ◆ Consumer/Finance/Debt

- ◆ Housing/Real estate issues

- ◆ Family and neighbor issues

*all clients are screened as to whether they have a will and POAs in place

** most time spent per case

Donations

Our very generous clients donate
about \$5000 per month
to Senior Legal Services.

Thank you for your strong support
of
El Dorado County seniors
and their services!