

January 23, 2020

Compassion, perseverance, and insightful describe some of the attributes of Eilon Caspi. He is a founding member of Elder Voice Family Advocates and has been an invaluable resource to us as we successfully pursued reform of the long-term care industry in Minnesota. Eilon’s depth of knowledge about elder abuse, neglect and exploitation gave a tremendous advantage in strengthening our arguments for a comprehensive reform package that was passed by the 2019 Minnesota Legislature.

We asked Eilon to lead a research project for Elder Voice earlier this year. This report titled ‘Inhuman and Deadly Neglect Revealed in State Assisted Living Facilities’ was released on April 22, 2019 at a press conference held at the Legislative Press Office and attracted major media attention and coverage.

The key findings of this report confirmed that the limited regulatory oversight and standards were driving an epidemic of abuse, neglect and exploitation cases. In 2018, over 22,500 complaints were received by the Minnesota Department of Health. This is up from 4,000 complaints in 2010. The Department continues to get over 400 complaints a week.

The impact of this research and the willingness of our members to talk publicly about the maltreatment of their loved ones compelled the legislators to finally take action and put needed pressure on the long-term care industry to finally accept that they had to support reform. This 158-page legislative bill was passed in May 2019.

Eilon continues to give us important input on the assisted living and elder protection rules being formulated at this time. Again, his deep knowledge is helping us make persuasive arguments and suggestions that will further strengthen the new assisted living and elder protection laws.

We highly value Eilon’s contributions to our organization and are deeply grateful to him.

Kristine Sundberg, Executive Director

Jean Peters, President

Elder Voice Family Advocates