



# Protecting Elders from Scams & Identity Theft

## *Tips on Common Scam & Ways to Stay Safe*

Just as you always watch over us, we want to help watch over you by sharing information about scams and risks that come with technology.

**What are Scams?** Scams are untrue tricks used to steal money or personal information and are becoming more common with modern day technology.

### Common Scams to Watch For



#### Phone Calls

A caller may pressure you to give personal details, passwords, or money right away by pretending to be the IRS, a bank, or even a family member.



#### Gift Card Requests

No real company or government office will ever ask to be paid with gift cards. If someone does, it is always a scam.



#### Text Messages & Emails

These often contain urgent warnings ("Your account is locked!") or links to fake websites. Opening links can allow scammers to steal information.



#### Prize Offers

Be cautious if someone says you've won money, a free trip, or a prize but must first send payment or share bank details.



### Ways to Stay Safe

- Hang up the phone if a caller makes you feel pressured or worried.
- Don't share personal information like Social Security numbers, bank accounts, or passwords over the phone, text, or email.
- If unsure, call a trusted family member or the business directly using the number you know—not the one in the message.
- Slow down and double-check. Scammers rely on making people feel rushed.
- Keep in mind: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

***We Are Stronger Together***