

# Building Adult Protection Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs)

August 1, 2024

Kristy Preston, Director



**ADULT PROTECTION NETWORK**



SCHOOL OF  
GOVERNMENT

Connecting. Informing. Supporting.

# Introductions

- **Name**
- **County**
- **Role**
- **What's one surprising thing about an older adult in your life that others wouldn't know by looking at them?**

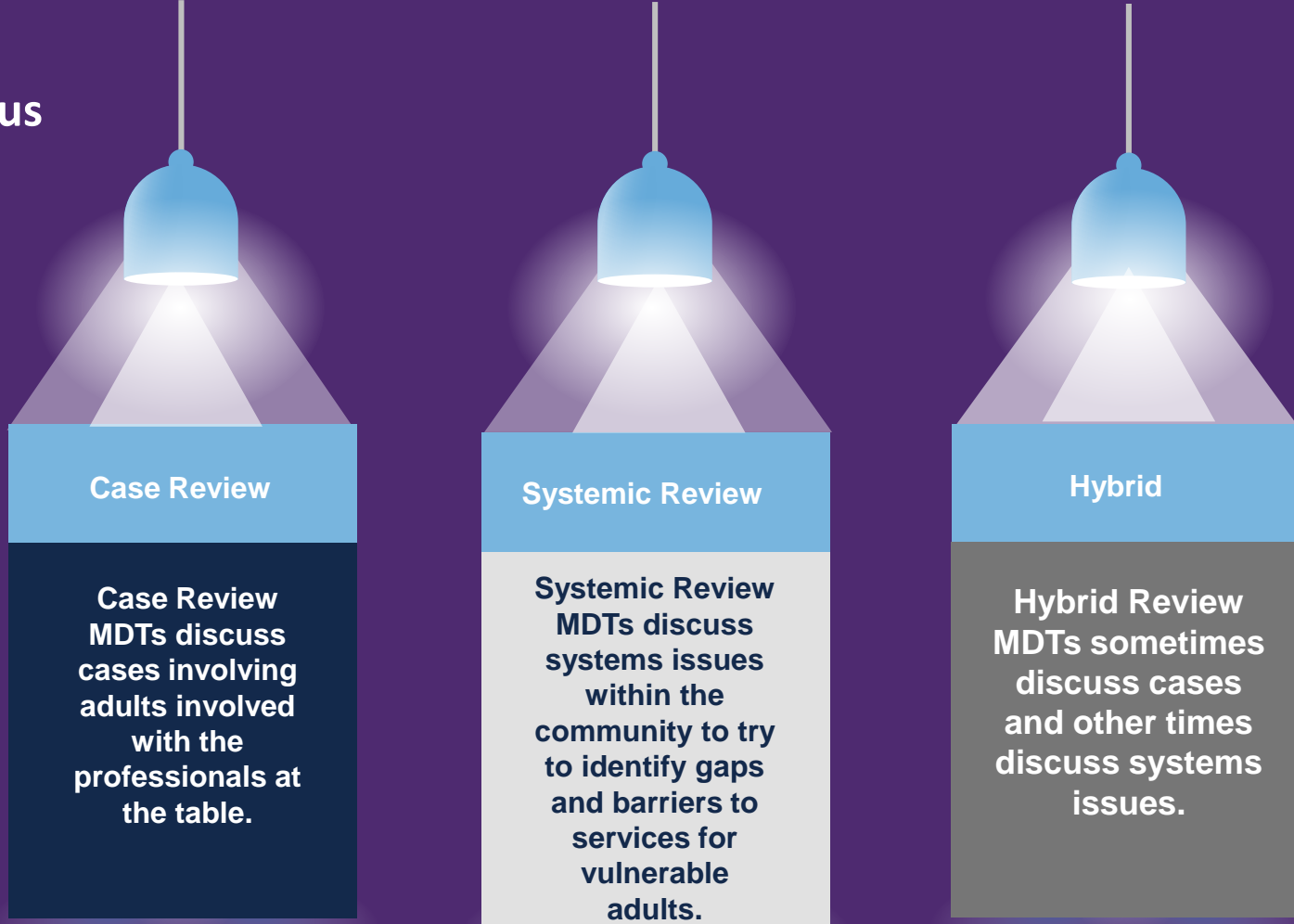
# What is a multidisciplinary team?

A group of individuals from a variety of professional disciplines...

...who work together collaboratively, bound by a common purpose...

...with a shared definition of the problem they are addressing.

## MDT Focus





# Potential Team Members

- APS
- Prosecutors (ADAs)
- Law enforcement
- Area Agency on Aging
- Attorneys
- Victim services
- Clerks of court
- Financial institutions
- Mental health
- Medical professionals

# MDT Benefits

## Benefits to Victims

- Improve access to services and support.
- Enhance coordination and efficiency of services.
- Create a “no-wrong-door” system.
- Gather more complete information about the victim
- Apply greater expertise on behalf of the victim.
- Offer an increased array of acceptable resolutions to victims.

## Benefits to Team Members

- Reduce duplication in the investigation of and response to adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- Increase understanding of the adult protection system.
- Strengthen community networks.
- Provide better communication across disciplines.

## Benefits to the Community

- Increase awareness of the signs of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- Increase participation in adult abuse prevention.
- Broaden public and private networks that support disabled and older adults.
- Extend the reach of limited resources.

Source: Georgia J. Anetzberger, *The Evolution of a Multidisciplinary Response to Elder Abuse*, Marquette Elder’s Advisor, vol. 13, no. 1, at 119 (2011), <https://scholarship.law.marquette.edu/elders/vol13/iss1/1>.

**Pair and Share:**

**MDT Benefits**

**What do you think is the most important benefit an adult protection MDT provides to a community?**

**How many counties  
in North Carolina  
have Adult  
Protection  
Multidisciplinary  
Teams?**

a. 22

b. 41

c. 55

d. 63

**How many counties  
in North Carolina  
have Adult  
Protection  
Multidisciplinary  
Teams?**

a. 22

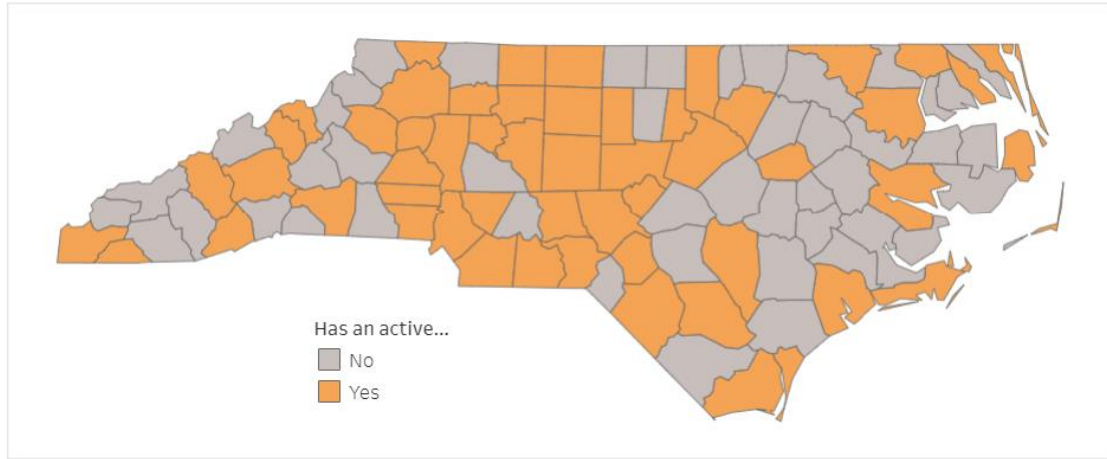
b. 41

c. 55

d. 63

# Find Your Peers Map

## County MDTs



## State MDTs

NC Department of Justice

[View on Tableau Public](#)



# Building Strong Adult Protection Multidisciplinary Teams: 21 Practical Tips



# Getting People to the Table

1. Start small and build
2. Develop a marketing pitch
3. Use available resources
4. Make active asks for participation
5. Visit a neighboring MDT for ideas
6. Consider piggybacking on another meeting
7. Assign new members a mentor



**Getting People  
to the Table**

**What other  
ideas do you  
have to get  
people to the  
table?**

# Keeping People at the Table

1. Meeting logistics
2. Room set-up
3. Agenda planning
4. Team member presentations
5. Addressing turnover
6. Setting goals
7. Celebrate successes



**Keeping People  
at the Table**

**What other  
ideas do you  
have to keep  
people at the  
table?**

# Troubleshooting

1. Agency leader vs. “boots on the ground”
2. Make active asks
3. Missing members
4. Facilitation skills
5. Work old cases
6. Include time for informal networking
7. Confidentiality



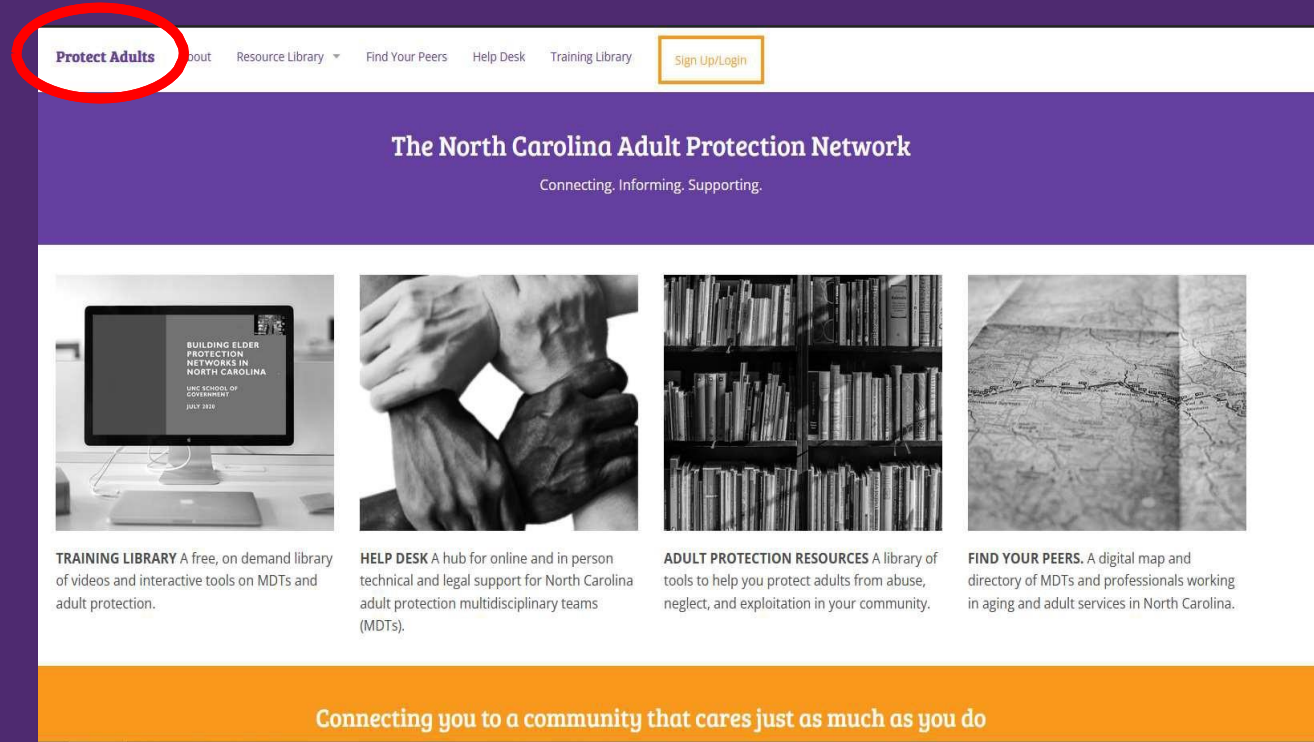
**Troubleshooting**

**What other  
ideas do you  
have to  
trouble shoot  
common  
team  
problems?**



# Resources

# Adult Protection Network Website: protectadults.sog.unc.edu



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Adult Protection Network website. The navigation bar at the top includes the following items: **Protect Adults** (highlighted with a red circle), About, Resource Library (with a dropdown arrow), Find Your Peers, Help Desk, Training Library, and a Sign Up/Login button (highlighted with an orange box). The main heading is "The North Carolina Adult Protection Network" with the tagline "Connecting. Informing. Supporting." Below this are four featured sections, each with an image and a description:

- TRAINING LIBRARY**: A free, on demand library of videos and interactive tools on MDTs and adult protection. The image shows a computer monitor displaying a presentation slide titled "BUILDING ELDER PROTECTION NETWORKS IN NORTH CAROLINA" by UNC SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT, dated JULY 2016.
- HELP DESK**: A hub for online and in person technical and legal support for North Carolina adult protection multidisciplinary teams (MDTs). The image shows two hands clasped together, symbolizing support.
- ADULT PROTECTION RESOURCES**: A library of tools to help you protect adults from abuse, neglect, and exploitation in your community. The image shows a bookshelf filled with books.
- FIND YOUR PEERS**: A digital map and directory of MDTs and professionals working in aging and adult services in North Carolina. The image shows a topographic map.

At the bottom of the page, an orange banner contains the text: "Connecting you to a community that cares just as much as you do"

**Have you visited  
the APN website?**



# U.S. Department of Justice: Elder Justice Initiative

## Website: [justice.gov/elderjustice/mdt-toolkit](https://justice.gov/elderjustice/mdt-toolkit)

[Justice.gov](#) > [Elder Justice Initiative \(EJI\)](#) > [MDT TAC](#) > [MDT Guide and Toolkit](#)

### MDT Guide and Toolkit

1: Introduction to  
Multidisciplinary  
Teams

2: Meeting the Needs  
of Your Community

3: Selecting Team  
Members

4: Building a Strong  
Foundation

5: Ethical and Legal  
Considerations

### MDT GUIDE AND TOOLKIT

## MDT Guide and Toolkit

Share

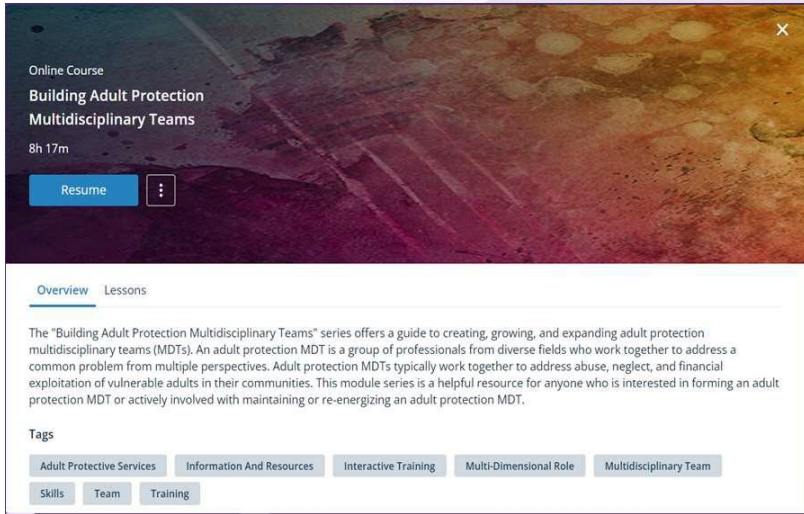


### Guide To Developing an Elder Abuse Case Review MDT in Your Community

The goal of this guide is to encourage and facilitate the development and growth of elder abuse case review Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs). In this guide, you will find information about MDT structures and functions, along with common issues with which a team will need to grapple in developing a case review MDT. There is no one way to create or maintain a MDT. Therefore, this guide offers a variety of ideas, sample materials, resources and tools intended to guide the development and sustainability of an MDT.

# Module Series:

## Building Adult Protection Multidisciplinary Teams



Online Course  
**Building Adult Protection  
Multidisciplinary Teams**  
8h 17m

Resume

Overview Lessons

The "Building Adult Protection Multidisciplinary Teams" series offers a guide to creating, growing, and expanding adult protection multidisciplinary teams (MDTs). An adult protection MDT is a group of professionals from diverse fields who work together to address a common problem from multiple perspectives. Adult protection MDTs typically work together to address abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of vulnerable adults in their communities. This module series is a helpful resource for anyone who is interested in forming an adult protection MDT or actively involved with maintaining or re-energizing an adult protection MDT.

Tags

Adult Protective Services Information And Resources Interactive Training Multi-Dimensional Role Multidisciplinary Team

Skills Team Training

### WHAT

13 e-learning modules

### AUDIENCE

Current and potential MDT members

### AVAILABILITY

Adult Services Learning  
Management System

Coming soon to the APN!

**MODULE 1**  
What is a  
Multidisciplinary  
Team?



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 2**  
Navigating  
Information Sharing  
within Your MDT



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 3**  
Recruitment: Bringing  
Team Members to  
the Table



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 4**  
Roles and  
Responsibilities of  
MDT Members



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 5**  
Creating Vision,  
Mission, and Value  
Statements



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 6A**  
Legal Considerations  
for Sharing Information  
in Case Review  
MDT Meetings



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 6B**  
Conducting a Case  
Review MDT Meeting



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 7**  
Systemic Review  
Multidisciplinary Teams



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 8**  
No One  
Understands Me



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 9**  
Facilitation and  
Meeting Design



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 10**  
Planning for  
Success



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 11**  
Connecting to  
Outside Resources



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**MODULE 12**  
Troubleshooting



Begin Module



The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network  
Learning, Sharing, Reporting

**Have you accessed  
the module series?**



# Adult Protection Network Help Desk: Weekly Emails

The North Carolina Adult Protection Network

Connecting. Informing. Supporting.

## Training Opportunity:

### **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) Webinar: Decision-making in Later Life**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 | 1:00 p.m.

Hosted by the [National Center on Elder Abuse \(NCEA\)](#)

Risk-taking is a fundamental function of decision-making. We all have the right to take risks and make choices that give our lives meaning. However, our ability to participate in activities that carry risk often comes under scrutiny, particularly if we experience physical, cognitive, mental health, or functional decline in later life. Diminished decisional capacity can be a risk factor for abuse. This webinar will address how older adults and elder justice professionals navigate the assessment, management, mitigation, and acceptance of risk that may expose older adults to abuse or harm. A Q&A session will follow the panel discussion.

[Register for the webinar](#)

Let us know about other training opportunities or available resources by contacting the [Help Desk](#). We'll share the information with others engaged in the work of protecting adults!

You received this email because you are a registered member of the UNC School of Government Adult Protection Network (APN). To learn more about the APN and obtain resources related to adult protection in North Carolina, visit the APN at <https://protectadults.sog.unc.edu>

The North Carolina Adult Protection Network

Connecting. Informing. Supporting.

## Friday Focus

Welcome to this week's Friday Focus, a weekly e-mail where we shine a light on a selection of resources, insights, and tools specifically curated for professionals who work in the field of aging and adult services.

### **Resource Spotlight: Older Veteran Behavioral Health Resource Inventory**

The [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#) (VA) recently released the 2024 Older Veteran Behavioral Health Resource Inventory. The resource includes information to assist professionals as they support older veterans and other older adults who have or are at risk for behavioral health conditions. The inventory provides an overview of programs and publications:

- VA benefits
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Substance use disorders
- Suicide prevention
- Health promotion and disease prevention
- Long-term services and supports

Click here to access the resource: [Older Veteran Behavioral Health Resource Inventory](#)

Visit the [Help Desk](#) for the North Carolina Adult Protection Network to connect with us and share other resources.

**Do you get the Training  
Tuesday and Friday Focus  
emails?**



# Consultation

## Durham County MDT 2.0 Rethinking our Vision, Mission and Values

Kristy Preston  
July 27, 2023

The North Carolina Adult  
Protection Network

Connecting. Informing. Supporting.



### The North Carolina Adult Protection Network

Connecting. Informing. Supporting.



### Mecklenburg County MDT "Re-set" Retreat Agenda

November 9, 2023  
9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Lunch 11:30 a.m. to noon)  
Centralina Area Agency on Aging  
10735 David Taylor Drive, Charlotte, NC

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

*Kristy Preston, Director, Adult Protection Network, UNC School of Government*  
*John Stephens, Associate Professor of Public Administration and Government, UNC School of Government*

- Be prepared to share the following: name, agency, position, and, "What is one attribute that makes an effective team?"
- Review group expectations and ground rules [See list below]

#### 2. Facilitator Roles

- Review facilitator roles

#### 3. Retreat Goals

- Review and Clarify Vision, Mission, and Goals
- Enhance Responsiveness
- Encourage Shared Responsibility and Accountability
- Increase Meeting Participation, Engagement, and Productivity
- Enhance Team Member Satisfaction

#### 4. MDT Vision and Mission

- What have the vision and mission statements meant to the team since 2019?
- What have the statements meant for new participants?
- Do the statements reflect the current status of what the team envisions for the community and how the team will operate?



CENTRALINA  
Area Agency on Aging

## Building An Adult Multidisciplinary Team: Virtual Training & Roundtable

Document was last saved: Just now

Centralina Regional Council 2023

1

# Connections



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC-BY-NC-ND](#)

# The MDT Booster Shot Series

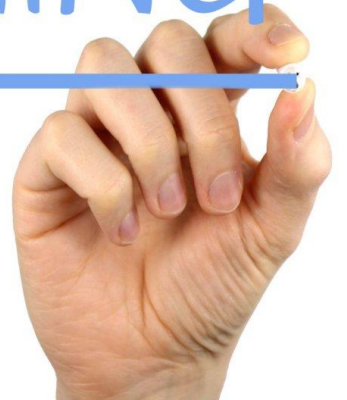


- June 25, 2024 – Guilford County
- July 11, 2024 – Alexander County
- July 12, 2024 – Transylvania County
- July 19, 2024 – Onslow County
- August 6, 2024 – Robeson County
- August 7, 2024 – Beaufort County

# Advanced MDT Training Pathway

- Law enforcement and prosecutors
- Adult protective services
- Mental health
- Guardianship
- Confidentiality and information sharing

TRAINING



# MDT Toolkit



- **Model written consent form**
- **MOU**
- **Recruitment letter – new team**
- **Recruitment letter – reestablishing**
- **Recruitment letter – adding new members**
- **Needs assessment worksheet**
- **Others needed?**

# Contact Us

## Help Desk

View 

Edit 

Welcome to the Help Desk for North Carolina adult protection multidisciplinary teams (MDTs). The purpose of the Help Desk is to create a space where all members of the adult protection community can access information and direct questions related to establishing and maintaining strong MDTs. We know that across the state MDTs are in various stages of development. Some counties have fully functioning MDTs. Some counties want to re-invigorate their efforts and some counties haven't gotten off the ground yet with your team. The Help Desk is here for all of you – every community, and everyone who participates in the MDT.

We want you to contact us when you are facing challenges. You may want ideas about how to strengthen your team. Or perhaps you need coaching on taking your first steps in forming an MDT. Some of you may need help managing dynamics among your team members or maybe you need to access specific legal expertise in managing a current case. The Help Desk is here to support you in all of these situations. Simply reach out via email or phone to connect with us.

[Schedule a Video Call](#)

[Give Us a Call  
919-966-4247](#)

[Send an Email](#)

## **Exit Ticket: Next Steps**

**What's one thing you  
learned today that will help  
you build an adult  
protection MDT**

**-or-**

**strengthen your existing  
MDT?**

**Questions?  
Kristy Preston  
kpreston@sog.unc.edu**



## **ADULT PROTECTION NETWORK**



**Connecting. Informing. Supporting.**

