

REPORTING ELDER & DEPENDENT ADULT

In case of emergency and/or if life threatening, call:

911

Otherwise Contact:

Kern County Sheriff's Office
(661) 861-3110
(800) 861-3110

Or

Local Law Enforcement In Your Area

Adult Protective Services

24 hr. Hotline:(661) 868-1006

Toll Free:(800) 277-7866

If abuse occurred in a residential care home or nursing home contact:

Long Term Care Ombudsman

(661) 323-7884

24 hr. Crisis Line:

(800) 231-4024



ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

5357 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Phone: (661) 868-1006

Fax: (661) 868-0923

E-mail: apsinfo@co.kern.ca.us
Website: www.kerncounty.com/aas

Please Promote Awareness by following:

#kNOwAbuseReportAbuse

#StopElderAbuse



24 Hour Hotline

(800) 277-7866

Or

(661) 868-1006

STOP ELDER & DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE

Elder or Dependent adult abuse or neglect could happen to you or someone you know. Abuse can be an intentional act and/or a lack of knowledge or ability in providing care.

WHO IS AN ELDER OR DEPENDENT ADULT

An Elder is defined as anyone aged 65 and over.

A Dependent adult is anyone aged 18 to 64 with a physical or mental disability.

TYPES OF ABUSE

Abuse can occur in a variety of ways:

Physical Abuse: causing pain and/or injury through physical or sexual contact.

Neglect: refusal or failure to provide adequate care, food, shelter, clothing, medicine, and/or medical aids (glasses, dentures, walkers, etc.)

Financial: illegal or improper use of cash, credit cards, funds, or other assets

Mental Suffering: causing mental anguish through use of threats, intimidation, yelling, etc.

Isolation/Abandonment: willfully left or separated from others

Self Neglect: unable to meet one's personal needs for self care

SIGNS OF ABUSE

Signs of abuse are noticeable changes in physical conditions and behavioral patterns such as:

- * Unexplained bruises, cuts, burns
- * Increased physical pain
- * Dehydration or malnourishment
- * Overly medicated without cause
- * Unusual confinement
- * Lack of cleanliness or grooming
- * Fearful to speak in front of caregiver
- * Shame, anxiety, embarrassment
- * Sudden change in mental status
- * Unusual or large bank withdrawals
- * Unexpected closing of bank accounts
- * Transfer of assets, deeds, trusts



WHO CAN HELP?

You, by reporting signs of abuse or neglect to Adult Protective Services, Long Term Care Ombudsman or Local Law Enforcement.

Adult Protective Services investigates incidents of abuse or neglect that occur in the community except for licensed facilities.

The Long Term Care Ombudsman program investigates incidents of abuse that occur in licensed facilities such as board and care facilities or assisted living facilities as well as skilled nursing facilities.

DO I HAVE TO GIVE MY NAME?

If you are not a mandated reporter then you can remain anonymous.

WHAT DOES ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES DO?

Adult Protective Services (APS) is a voluntary program that investigates instances of neglect and abuse within State prescribed time lines. For those willing to accept services APS will provide linkage to appropriate resources and cross report crimes to law enforcement.

WHY WOULD SOMEONE REFUSE?

Reasons people decline assistance vary but the more common reasons:

- ◇ Fear of public exposure
- ◇ Protecting the abuser (in 2/3 of cases the abuser is a relative or close friend)
- ◇ Fear of retaliation
- ◇ Belief that the abuse is deserved
- ◇ Loss of intimacy
- ◇