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MARIN COUNTY AGING AND ADULT SERVICES

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS)

APS ELIGIBILITY

- ▶ Adult Protective Services (APS) investigates, protects and remedies the abuse of older adults (60 +) and dependent adults in the community.
- ▶ Dependent Adult is a person between 18 and 59 years old that has a significant disability that causes dependency.
- ▶ Community includes those living in their own homes, independent assisted living facilities, unlicensed facilities and hospitals.
- ▶ Adult Protective Services must balance the duty to protect the safety of the vulnerable adult with the adult's right to self determination.
- ▶ Elder and dependent adult abuse is a crime
(Penal Code 368).

TYPES OF ABUSE

- **ABUSE BY OTHERS**

Physical

Sexual

Financial

Neglect

Abandonment

Isolation

Abduction

Psychological/mental

- **SELF NEGLECT**

Physical care

Medical care

Health and Safety

Malnutrition/

Dehydration

Financial self-neglect

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MANDATED REPORTERS



Welfare and Institution Code Section 15630, which reads in part:

“Any person who has assumed full or intermittent responsibility for care or custody of an elder or dependent adult, whether or not that person receives compensation, including administrators, supervisors, and any licensed staff of a public or private facility that provides care or services for elder or dependent adults, or any elder or dependent adult care custodian, health practitioner, or employee of a county adult protective services agency or a local law enforcement agency is a mandated reporter.”

Mandated reporters are required to report suspected abuse or neglect by phone as soon as possible and follow up with a completed written report within two days.

Failure to report abuse of an elder or dependent adult is a misdemeanor, punishable by not more than six months in the county jail or by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both imprisonment and fine. Any mandated reporter who willfully fails to report abuse where the abuse results in death or great bodily injury, may be punished by up to one year in county jail, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both imprisonment and fine.

If you are employed by a financial institution, it's required that you complete form SOC 342. All other persons need to complete form SOC 341.

APS STATISTICS 2025

- ▶ **Total number of APS reports received in 2025**
 - ▶ **2962**
- ▶ **Total number of APS referrals opened**
 - ▶ **1895**
- ▶ **Highest number of reports on self-neglect followed by financial abuse and exploitation.**

The Life of an APS Investigation

Receive Referral

Case is screened by supervisor and either screened out or assigned to a social worker.



**Make Contact:
Immediate or 10
Day**



**Investigation, Risk
Assessment (21
days)**

**Actions
Supporting Case
Plan (30 days)**



**Protective Issue
Resolved/Risk of
harm lessened**



Case Is Closed

ROLE OF APS

- ▶ Ameliorate protective issues.
- ▶ Provide emergency and critical resources.
- ▶ Connect clients to other services (mental health, legal assistance, financial and food assistance).
- ▶ Assist with moving client to higher level of care if necessary.
- ▶ Cross report to law enforcement, Ombudsman, another state entities if appropriate.

LIMITATIONS TO APS ROLE

- ▶ APS is voluntary
- ▶ APS cannot remove people from their homes
- ▶ APS does not do 5150s (involuntary holds)
- ▶ APS cannot place people in SNFs, assisted living facilities etc.
- ▶ APS does not have available housing

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REPORTING TO APS

- ▶ Call the **Adult Protective Services (APS) Hotline** if you suspect the abuse of older or dependent adults living in the community.
- ▶ **Phone:** 415 473-2774
- ▶ **Fax:** 415 473-7042

- ▶ Call the **Long-Term Care Ombudsman** if you suspect abuse in a long-term care or licensed facility
- ▶ **Phone :** 415 473-7446
- ▶ **Fax:** 415 473-6933

- ▶ **Mandated Reporter Training Online**
<http://www.fresnostate.edu/chhs/asta/mandatedreporting.html>

SOCIAL ISOLATION IN THE CONTEXT OF APS

- ▶ **Social Isolation does not meet APS criteria for response**
- ▶ **Social Isolation and self-neglect:**
 - physical (extreme hoarding, food, self-care, living environment)
 - mental health
 - medical
- ▶ **Possible contributing factors**
 - Physical and cognitive decline
 - Severe mental health
 - Lack of or limited family connection
 - Lack of social and community engagement

ROLE OF APS WORKERS

- ▶ Safety is priority
- ▶ Referral to behavioral health Services
- ▶ Referral to case management services if Medi-Cal eligible
- ▶ Connect with family and friends
- ▶ Encourage participation in social activities (Senior Centers, LITA, Marin Villages, Vivalon...etc.)
- ▶ Set up caregiving services (apply for IHSS if qualify)

QUESTIONS?

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