

Reporting Abuse, Neglect, or Exploitation

VULNERABLE ADULT - Means a person eighteen (18) years or older who is unable to protect himself from abuse, neglect, or exploitation due to physical or mental impairment which affects a person's judgment or behavior to the extent that he lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make or communicate or implement decisions regarding his person.

ABUSE - is the intentional or negligent infliction of physical pain, injury, or mental injury.

NEGLECT AND SELF-NEGLECT - is the failure of a caregiver to provide food, clothing, shelter, or medical care reasonably necessary to sustain life and health of a vulnerable adult, or the failure of a vulnerable adult to provide those services for himself.

EXPLOITATION - is an action which may include, but is not limited to, the misuse of a vulnerable adult's funds, property, or resources by another person for profit or advantage.

SIGNS OF ABUSE

- Unexplained bruises, welts, black eyes, wounds, or fractures
- Multiple injuries in various stages of healing
- Sudden changes in behavior (adult is fearful or depressed)
- Client reports abuse

SIGNS OF NEGLECT OR SELF-NEGLECT

- Dehydration, malnutrition, untreated bed sores, and poor personal hygiene
- Unattended or untreated health problems
- Vulnerable adult reports being mistreated
- Hazardous or unsafe living conditions (e.g. improper wiring, poor plumbing, no heat, or no running water)
- Unsanitary or unclean living quarters (e.g. animal/insect infestation or fecal/urine smell or matter present)
- Inappropriate and/or inadequate clothing, lack of medical attention

SIGNS OF EXPLOITATION

- Sudden transfer of funds or assets
- Unexplained or unusual use of bank cards
- Unpaid bills, misuse of ATM cards, or forged signatures on checks

WHERE DO YOU REPORT?

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

CALL: 911

OR YOUR LOCAL POLICE

In non-emergency cases contact:

AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF NORTH IDAHO

208-667-3179 or 800-786-5536
2120 Lakewood Drive, Suite B
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

If you report abuse, neglect, or exploitation, you can remain anonymous.

When you call you will be asked:

- What makes this person vulnerable?
- The name, address, age, and telephone number of the vulnerable adult and the alleged perpetrator
- Any information about the circumstances
- Any safety issues or concerns
- Your name, address, and telephone