

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Anson County	704-694-9351
Cabarrus County	704-920-1400
Gaston County	704-862-7500
Iredell County	704-873-5631
Lincoln County	704-732-0738
Mecklenburg County	704-336-2273
Rowan County	704-216-8331
Stanly County	704-982-6100
Union County	704-296-4300

WHEN IN DOUBT, REPORT
MISTREATMENT BY CALLING

911

If you have reason to believe that an older or disabled adult has been abused, neglected, or exploited, you must contact your county Department of Social Services.

WHY REPORT?

BECAUSE IT'S THE LAW!

Reporter's name is confidential!

Reporter is protected from civil and criminal liability for good faith reports

WHO TO CALL?

Your County Department of Social Services (DSS)
Adult Protective Services Unit

WHEN TO CALL? 24 HOURS A DAY

WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THE DISABLED ADULT?

- Name and address
- Age or birth date
- Caregiver/caretaker's name (if any)
- Explain the situation and why you feel the person needs protection
- Mental or physical condition of the adult
- Names of others who may help provide information regarding the situation (if available)



Centralina Area Agency on Aging Ombudsman Program

1-800-508-5777

www.centralinaaging.org



Distributed by Centralina Regional Council
Area Agency on Aging Ombudsman Program.

BLOW the Whistle on Elder Abuse



BLOW THE WHISTLE STOP ABUSE, NEGLECT, & EXPLOITATION OF OLDER & DISABLED ADULTS

N.C. has a law that applies to disabled adults who might be abused, neglected or exploited and may need protection.
N.C. General Statute 108A-100

PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN MISTREATED MAY SHOW THESE BEHAVIORS

- AVOIDANCE OF EYE CONTACT
- CONFUSION
- HESITANCE TO TALK OPENLY
- WITHDRAWAL
- CHANGE IN APPETITE OR SLEEP PATTERNS
- SUSPICIOUS OR PARANOID BEHAVIOR
- RADICAL CHANGE IN BEHAVIOR
- DEPRESSION

ABUSE: Willful infliction of physical pain, injury, mental anguish, unreasonable confinement, or willful deprivation by a caretaker of services which are necessary to maintain mental or physical health.

SELF NEGLECT: Disabled adult who lives alone or has no caretaker and is not able to provide necessary services to maintain his/her mental and physical health.

CARETAKER NEGLECT: Failure of the caretaker to provide services necessary to avoid physical harm or mental anguish and to maintain mental health of the disabled adult.

EXPLOITATION: Illegal or improper use of the disabled adult or his resources for another's profit or advantage.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR . . .

- Unusual and unexplained bruises, welts, fractures and burns in various stages of healing or in the shape of an object (rope, belt, restraints, electric burner)
- Bed sores, weight loss or dry skin and lips
- Clothing inappropriate for temperature and conditions
- Inadequate shelter or medical care
- Any willful confinement of the adult in a dangerous environment

WHAT TO LOOK FOR . . .

- Forgetfulness in lighting or turning off stove or gas
- Aimless wandering at night
- Inability to cook, eat, bathe, toilet, dress or care for oneself
- Unusual thinness or dehydration
- Causing small fires
- Living in an unsafe dwelling or environment
- Inappropriate use of medication
- Inability to communicate

WHAT TO LOOK FOR . . .

- Failure to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing, and attention to personal and incidental needs
- Failure to manage resources to meet needs
- Failure to provide a safe living situation that is not hazardous to health and safety
- Failure to provide appropriate supervision
- Failure by caretaker to provide or arrange for medical needs

WHAT TO LOOK FOR . . .

- Unexplained withdrawal of money from bank accounts
- Use of deceit, treachery, or coercion to obtain money or assets
- Unusual interest by anyone in the disabled adult's assets
- Difference between assets and lifestyle
- Unusually large payment for services
- Mismanagement of person's funds (failure to pay for essential services)
- Inappropriate sexual activity

CALL YOUR LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES/ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES