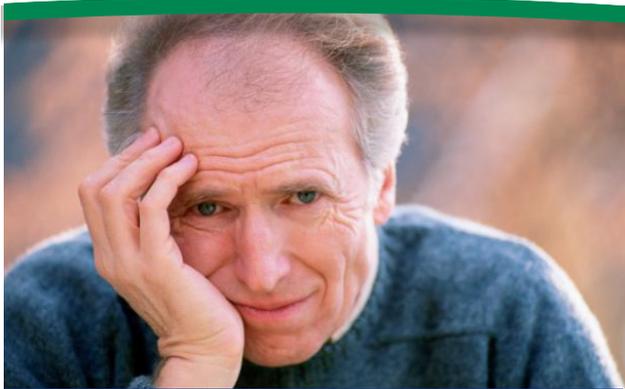


Report suspected adult abuse, exploitation or neglect



Signs of Self-Neglect

- Forgetfulness in turning off stove or gas
- Wandering
- Inability to cook, eat, bathe, toilet, dress, or care for one's self
- Rapid weight loss or dehydration
- Causing small fires
- Living in an unsafe dwelling
- Inappropriate use of medications
- Inability to communicate needs



NO CHARGE INTERPRETATION SERVICES

If you do not speak English, or if you are deaf, hard of hearing, or blind, you can have interpretation services provided for you at no extra charge. Tell the person helping you that you need an interpreter.

Hmong

Yog hais tias koj hais tsis tau lus Askiv, los sis koj yog tibneeg lag ntseg, los yog tibneeg dig muag, peb muaj neeg pes lus dawb pub rau koj. Hais qhia rau tus tibneeg uas koj ntsib ntawd kom nws nrhiav neeg pab pes lus rau koj.

Spanish

Si usted no dice el inglés, o si usted es sordo, duro de oído, o ciego, usted puede hacer asegurar servicios de interpretación usted sin cargo adicional. Diga a la persona que le ayuda que usted necesita a un intérprete.



CATAWBA COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES
3030 11th Ave DR SE • Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 695-5600 • www.catawbacountync.gov/dss/



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ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES



Adult Protective Services



To strengthen, with dignity and respect, the quality of life for all citizens through supportive services and advocacy



Stopping Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Of Disabled and Elderly Adults

What is Abuse, Exploitation and Neglect?

“Abuse” refers to the willful infliction of physical pain, injury or mental anguish, unreasonable confinement, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services, which are necessary to maintain mental and physical health.

“Exploitation” refers to the illegal or improper use of a disabled adult or his resources for another’s profit or advantage.

“Neglect” refers to a disabled adult who is either living alone and not able to provide for him/her self the services which are necessary to maintain his mental or physical health or is not receiving services from his caretaker.

“Self Neglect” refers to a 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.

Signs of Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation in the Elderly and Disabled

- Unexplained injuries (bruises, cuts, burns, broken bones, etc.)
- Significant weight loss, malnutrition, dehydration
- Untreated physical problems, such as bed sores
- Unsafe living conditions (no heat or running water; faulty wiring, fire hazards)
- Threatening, belittling, or controlling caregiver behavior
- Another person’s name added to the adult’s bank account, or frequent checks made out to “cash”
- Significant withdrawals from the elder’s bank accounts
- Items or cash missing from the senior’s household
- Sudden changes in will or power of attorney
- Caregiver refusal to let you see the elder alone

How to Report Suspicions of Abuse, Neglect, or Exploitation:

Call or contact Adult Protective Services at the Department of Social Services (DSS) in the county where the senior is residing

Give as much information about the elder or disabled person and why they are in need of protective services. Helpful information to include: the adult’s name, address, phone number, age, disability, and living arrangements.

Your name and information is kept confidential unless a court of law orders disclosure. You can also make the report anonymously.

You can choose to be notified of the status of the report by phone or mail.

