



Adult Protective Services

Each year, hundreds of older and dependent Lake County adults are provided assistance so they can live in a healthy environment, free from abuse, neglect and financial mistreatment.

Recognize the Warning signs

While one sign does not necessarily indicate abuse, some things to watch for are:

- Bruises, scratches or other suspicious injuries.
- Poor hygiene, dirty or torn clothes.
- Lack of appropriate housing.
- Untreated medical conditions.
- Not enough food and water.
- Withdrawn or secretive behavior; hesitant to talk freely around care provider.
- Family members or care providers restrict contact with other people.
- Unusual bank account activity, including unexplained ATM withdrawals.
- Unpaid bills, eviction notices or utilities shut off.

Call APS
707-995-4680

Adult Protective Services
(APS)
16170 Main Street
Unit D
Lower Lake, CA 95457
707-995-4680
888-221-2204



Safety and well-being for older and dependent adults

A program of
Lake County Department
of Social Services

Anually, many older and dependent adults are victims of mistreatment by family members, care providers and others responsible for their well-being.

Lake County Adult Protective Services (APS) is committed to helping adults age 65 and older, and dependent adults whose physical or mental limitations restrict their day-to-day life activities, live in a safe environment.

Social Workers investigate allegations of abuse, exploitation and abandonment, and also help provide information and referrals for housing, food, clothing and case management.

Our goal is to ensure the safety and well-being of older and dependent adults in Lake County. With the support of families, the community and agency partners, our clients can live independently and safely within their homes and communities.

With the client's consent, we work to stabilize his/her situation and ensure their protection. Referrals to services may include:

- Advocacy
- Counseling
- Money management
- Food
- Clothing
- Housing
- Conservatorship
- Out-of-home placement

If you suspect abuse, report it. (707) 995-4680

Why should you make a report?

Since victims may be reluctant to report, they need *you* to assist them in getting the help they need.

You should contact APS any time you suspect abuse. The APS Social Worker will ask you for information to ensure provision of appropriate services and response.

You are protected from liability as long as you make the report in good faith. and you have the option of remaining anonymous.

Anyone can become a victim...

Abuse happens to men and women, healthy and ill, rich and poor, and to all ethnic and cultural groups. Although individuals who are dependent upon others for their care are the most likely to be abused, even healthy, active seniors can become victims.

...and anyone can be an abuser

The abuser is often a trusted family member, care provider or friend. Care provider stress, financial problems, substance abuse and personal problems can all cause a well-meaning person to become abusive.

Victims are often reluctant to ask for help

Victims sometimes fear what will happen to them if they accuse their care provider of abuse. They worry that they will be left without care or will be forced into a skilled nursing facility. Victims who have been independent all their lives often feel guilty about how much care they need. Victims are often embarrassed about their situations and in extreme cases, may fear retaliation.