

TOLL FREE ABUSE HOTLINE 1-800-91PREVENT (1-800-917-7383) OR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ALLEGANY COUNTY DSS

1 Frederick Street, P.O. Box 1420
Cumberland, MD 21502
(301) 784-7044: *911

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DSS

80 West Street, P.O. Box 1787 Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 269-4500: *(410) 421-8400

BALTIMORE CITY DSS

300 Metro Plaza, Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 361-5000: *(410) 361-2235

BALTIMORE COUNTY DSS

Drumcastle Government Center, 6401 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 853-3000: *(410) 853-9398

CALVERT COUNTY DSS

200 Duke Street, Prince Frederick, MD 20687
(410) 286-2108: *1 (800) 787-9428

CAROLINE COUNTY DSS

207 South Third Street, P.O. Box 100, Denton, MD 21629
(410) 479-5900: *911

CARROLL COUNTY DSS

10 Distillery Drive, Westminster, MD 21157
(410) 386-3300: *(410) 386-3434

CECIL COUNTY DSS

170 East Main Street, Elkton, MD 21921
(410) 996-0100: (410) 996-5350

CHARLES COUNTY DSS

200 Kent Avenue, P.O. Box 1010, LaPlata, MD 20646
(301) 392-6724: *(301) 932-2222

DORCHESTER COUNTY DSS

627 Race Street, P.O. Box 217, Cambridge, MD 21613
(410) 901-4100: *(410) 221-3246

FREDERICK COUNTY DSS

100 East All Saints Street, P.O. Box 237, Frederick, MD 21701
(301) 631-2635: *(301) 694-2102

GARRETT COUNTY DSS

12578 Garrett Highway, Oakland, MD 21550
(301) 533-3004: *911

HARFORD COUNTY DSS

2 South Bond Street, Bel Air, MD 21014
(410) 836-4717: *(410) 838-6600

HOWARD COUNTY DSS

7121 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046
(410) 872-4204 ext. 356: *911

KENT COUNTY DSS

350 High Street, P.O. Box 670, Chestertown, MD 21620
(410) 810-7600: *(410) 758-1101

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DHHS

Division of Aging and Disability Services
401 Hungerford Drive, 3rd Floor, Rockville, MD 20850
(240) 777-3000: *24 Hours

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DSS

805 Brightseat Road, Landover, MD 20785
(301) 909-2450: *(301) 864-7130

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY DSS

120 Broadway, Centreville, MD 21617
(410) 758-8000: *(410) 758-1101

ST. MARY'S COUNTY DSS

23110 Leonard Hall Drive, P.O. Box 509
Leonardtown, MD 20650
(240) 895-7016: *(301) 475-8016

SOMERSET COUNTY DSS

30397 Mount Vernon Road, P.O. Box 369
Princess Anne, MD 21853
(410) 677-4200: *911

TALBOT COUNTY DSS

10 Hanson Street, P.O. Box 1479, Easton, MD 21601
(422) 822-1617: *(410) 822-3101

WASHINGTON COUNTY DSS

122 Potomac Street, P.O. Box 1419, Hagerstown, MD 21741
(240) 420-2155: *(240) 420-2222

WICOMICO COUNTY DSS

201 Baptist Street, P.O. Box 2298, Salisbury, MD 21802
(410) 543-6900 x269: *(410) 548-4890

WORCESTER COUNTY DSS

299 Commerce Street, P.O. Box 39, Snow Hill, MD 21863
(410) 677-6839: *911



State of Maryland
Parris N. Glendening, *Governor*
Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, *Lt. Governor*
Department of Human Resources
Emelda P. Johnson, *Secretary*
Equal Opportunity Employer

DHR/Pub. CSA 1043 (Revised 04/02)

* Denotes coverage after normal working hours.



Maryland's Human Services Agency

Adult Protective Services

As required by the Adult Protective Services Law (Article 14 of the Maryland Annotated Code)

Adult Protective Services

This program serves persons aged 18 or over who lack the physical or mental capacity to provide for their daily needs. The purpose of the program is to prevent or remedy the abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation of adults who are unable to protect their own interests and are at risk of immediate harm to their own person or to others. The program provides professional services to protect the health, safety, and welfare of endangered, vulnerable adults.

Under the law any health practitioner, police officer, or human service worker who has reason to believe that a vulnerable adult is in danger is required to report that fact to the local department of social services. Any concerned person may also make such a report.

Persons who report the need for Adult Protective Services are protected under the law. Section 14-309 of the Family Law Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, states "any person who in good faith makes or participates in making a report under this subtitle or participates in an investigation or a judicial proceeding resulting from a report under this subtitle is immune from any civil liability that would otherwise result."

All suspected cases of the following should be reported:

- **ABUSE** - the sustaining of physical injury by a vulnerable adult as a result of cruel or inhumane treatment or as a result of a malicious act by any person;
- **NEGLECT** - the willful deprivation of adequate food, clothing, medical treatment, or habilitation therapy, shelter, or supervision from a vulnerable adult;
- **SELF-NEGLECT** - the inability of a vulnerable adult to provide for his/her physical or mental health and well-being;
- **EXPLOITATION** - any action which involves the misuse of a vulnerable adult's funds, property, or person;

The report should be made as soon as there is reasonable cause to believe that an adult is in danger of harm because of suspected abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation, or is in an emergency situation. An emergency may be any living condition of an individual that presents a substantial risk of death or immediate and serious physical harm to the individual or to others. Reports may be made to the local department of social services, by telephone, letter, direct conversation, or other communication. The report should contain the following information, if known:

- the name, age, and home address of the alleged vulnerable adult;
 - the name and home address of the person responsible for the care of the alleged vulnerable adult;
 - the whereabouts of the alleged vulnerable adult;
 - the nature and extent of the abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation of the alleged vulnerable adult, including information available to the reporter concerning previous injury possibly resulting from abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation; and
 - any other information that would help to determine the cause of the suspected abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation.
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