



### What Happens when I Make a Report?

#### When you report suspected abuse:

- We may ask for your name and contact information so APS can reach out for information, but your identity is kept confidential by law!
- We will ask several questions; Please answer to the best of your ability, but if you do not know everything, that is okay.
- APS will begin their investigation within 24 business hours.

#### The report may be investigated in a variety of ways, including:

- Interviews with the individual, family members, caregivers, surrogate decision-makers, law enforcement, or other professionals.
- Visits to the residence/facility.
- Review of medical and financial records.
- Assessments of level of risk, decision-making capacity, potential service needs, funding sources, and support.
- Assessments of interventions, voluntary or involuntary, and/or whether emergency action is warranted.

Contact us at: **608.328.9499**

## HOW TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE:

**CALL US TOLLFREE AT**  
800.514.0066

**CALL US LOCALLY AT**  
608.328.9499

**EMAIL US AT**  
eap@gchsd.org

**SEND A LETTER OR COME INTO THE OFFICE**  
N3152 STATE ROAD 81  
Monroe, WI 53566

**CONTACT THE STATEWIDE GWAAR ELDER ABUSE HOTLINE OR WEBSITE**  
833.586.0107  
reportelderabusewi.org



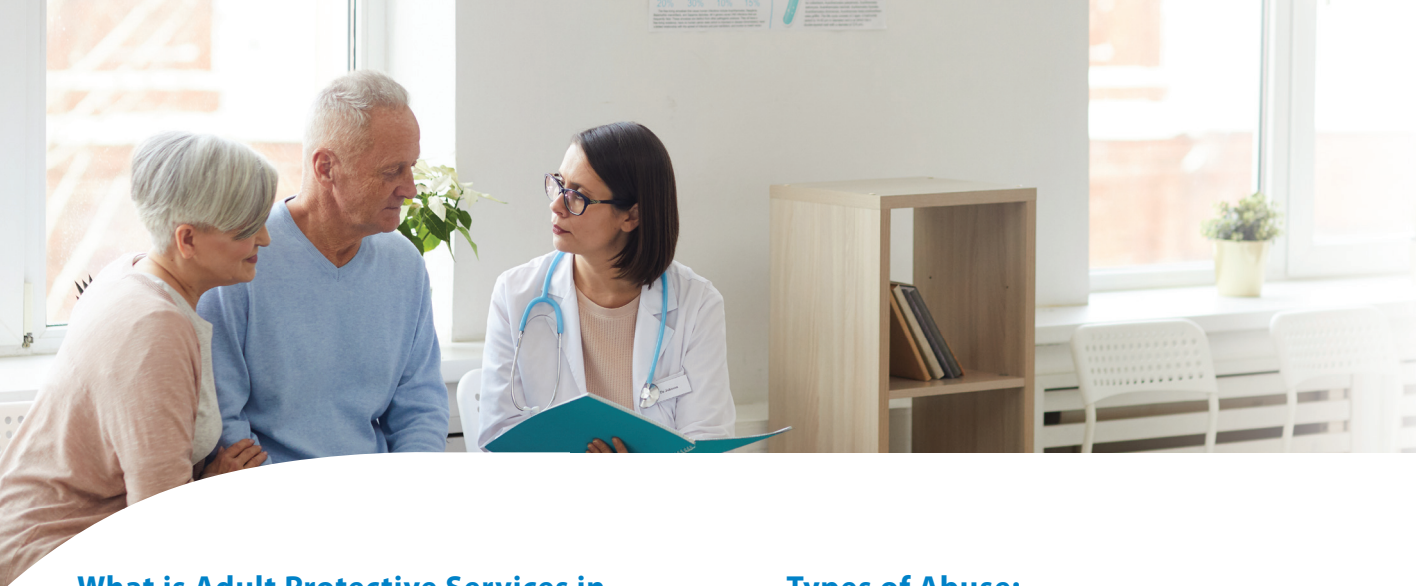
**SCAN QR CODE**  
to visit our website on your phone.

# Adult Protective Services



Serving adults in our community

**608.328.9499**



## What is Adult Protective Services in Wisconsin?

Adult Protective Services (APS) agencies are established under Wisconsin law. They are authorized to protect adults from abuse while using the least restrictive interventions and preserving individual rights to the greatest extent possible.

### Actions That APS May Take

Under Wis. Stat. §55.01(6r), “protective services” include any of the following:

- Outreach
- Identification of individuals in need of services
- Counseling and referral for services
- Coordination of services for individuals
- Tracking and follow-up
- Social services
- Case management
- Legal counseling or referral
- Guardianship referral
- Diagnostic evaluation
- Protective Placements

### Types of Abuse:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Financial Exploitation
- Neglect from Others
- Self-Neglect

### Signs of Abuse:

**Physical Abuse:** Bruises, black eyes, burns, lacerations, broken/fracture bones, wounds, or other unexplained and repeated injuries.

**Emotional Abuse:** Changes in demeanor, overly anxious, trembling, agitated, fearful, or scared behaviors. Pointing blame at themselves and worrying that any conversations will “get back to” the other party.

**Sexual Abuse:** Unexplained injuries and bleeding in genital areas, sexually transmitted diseases.

**Financial Exploitation:** Sudden changes in accounts, funds/valuable possessions disappearing, bills/cares unable to be paid, and spendthrift activities.

**Neglect from Others:** Lack of physical or environmental cleanliness, bedsores, soiled clothing/bedding, weight loss, frailty/weakness, dehydration, untreated health problems, lack of safe living environment, lack of needed medical equipment, medications denied or not administered properly, or obvious absence of caregivers.

*\*\*Note: This does not include a decision that is made to not seek medical care for an individual, if that decision is consistent with individual's previously executed declaration or do-not-resuscitate order.\*\**

**Self-Neglect:** Look for signs included above in Neglect from Others. Self-neglect differs from neglect because it does not involve an abuser. Instead, it occurs when an individual fails to provide or obtain for themselves adequate cares or take adequate safety precautions, and the above results in a significant danger to the individuals physical and/or mental health.

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