

ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE REPORTING

MANDATED REPORTERS – Anyone can report abuse; however, state law requires that any individual who is an elder or dependent adult care custodian **MUST** report any suspected abuse. A care custodian is a person providing any level or type of care to disabled adults and/or the elderly.

- Elderly are persons 65 years or older
- Dependent Adults are between the ages of 18 and 64 who have physical or mental limitations that restrict their ability to carry out normal activities or to protect their rights

WHAT TO REPORT

Any mandated reporter is required to report any reasonable suspicion of:

- Physical Abuse
- Financial Abuse
- Abandonment
- Isolation
- Abduction
- Neglect/Self-Neglect
- Mental Suffering

The identity of reporting parties is protected and kept confidential but "mandated reporters" must identify themselves when reporting. Failure to report may result in a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment up to six months in county jail. If the abuse results in death or great bodily harm, the penalty may increase up to \$5,000 and/or up to one year in county jail.

WHERE TO REPORT

- Adult Protective Services – all incidents outside of long term care facilities (includes acute care hospitals) (**Call 454-4101 or toll free 1-(866) 580-HELP**)
- Ombudsman – for incidents in long term care facilities (**429-1913 or 688-8833**)
- Law Enforcement Agency (**for emergency, call 911**)

Note: A mandated reporter may be asked to fill out a Report of Suspected Abuse Form that will be provided to them.