

# What is Adult Protective Services?

Adult Protective Services (APS) programs have been established in each county in New Jersey to receive and investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults living in a community setting.

### The Purpose of APS:

Stabilize a crisis situation using the least intrusive methods while respecting an individual's right to self-determination.

#### **APS CASES**

APS may become involved in situations that meet all of these conditions:

A vulnerable adult is:

- ✓ Age 18 years or older, AND
- Residing in the community, AND
- ✓ Due to physical or mental illness, disability or deficiency, lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make, communicate, or carry out decisions concerning his or her well-being, AND
- ✓ Is the subject of abuse, neglect or exploitation.

A community setting is:

- ✓ A private residence, OR
- ✓ Any non-institutional setting not licensed by, operated by, or under contract with, a State department or agency.

# Making a Referral to APS:

The referral should be made by the person with first-hand information about the client.

The referral should be made directly to the county in which the client resides.

The referral should consist of as much information as possible including:

- Client's name, address, phone number
- ✓ DOB and Social Security number
- ✓ Diagnoses health and/or mental health issues
- ✓ Family members/support systems (services/agencies involved)
- ✓ A specific allegation of abuse, neglect or exploitation

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

All records and communications pertaining to any report, evaluation or service provided pursuant to the Adult Protective Services Act (P.L. 1993, Ch. 249, C52:27D) are confidential.

APS is only permitted to share the results of an APS assessment when directed to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction or when disclosure of information is necessary for the Division or the APS provider to perform its responsibilities as set forth by statute.

#### **Limits to Assistance**

An APS worker is not authorized to:

- Remove a vulnerable adult from his or her home without a court order.
- Force an adult with capacity to accept services.
- Move an individual to an alternate living situation without his/her agreement or a legal representative's agreement.

Mandatory Reporting

In 2010, New Jersey's APS law (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-406 to 426) was amended to require health care professionals, law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics or emergency medical technicians who have reasonable cause to believe that a vulnerable adult is the subject of abuse, neglect or exploitation to report that information to the county Adult Protection Services office.

IT'S THE LAW.

Adults retain all their civil and constitutional rights unless some of those rights have been restricted by court action.

# **NEW JERSEY ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

#### **Atlantic**

Atlantic County Division of Intergenerational Services Shoreview Building 101 South Shore Road Northfield, NJ 08225

Phone: 1-888-426-9243, 609-645-5965 After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### Bergen

Bergen County Board of Social Services 216 Route 17 North Rochelle Park, NJ 07662 Phone: 201-368-4300 After Hrs: 1-800-624-0275

www.bcbss.com

#### Burlington

Burlington County Board of Social Services 795 Woodlane Road Mount Holly, NJ 08060 Phone: 609-518-4793 After Hrs: 856-234-8888 www.bcbss.org

#### Camden

Camden County Board of Social Services 600 Market Street Camden, NJ 08102 Phone: 856-225-8178 After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### Cape May

Cape May County Board of Social Services 4005 Route 9 South Rio Grande, NJ 08242 Phone: 609-886-6200, ask for Intake Social Worker

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency www.cmcbss.com

#### Cumberland

Cumberland County Office on Aging and Disabled Administration Building 800 East Commerce Street Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Bridgeton, NJ 08302 Phone: 856-453-2223

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### **Essex**

FOCUS, Hispanic Center for Human Dev., Inc. 441-443 Broad Street Newark, NJ 07102 Phone: 866-903-6287

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### Gloucester

Gloucester County Division of Social Services 400 Hollydell Drive Sewell, NJ 08080 Phone: 856-582-9200, 856-256-2280 After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### Hudson

Hudson County Protective Services, Inc. 6020 Hudson Avenue West New York, NJ 07093 Phone: 201-537-5631 After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### Hunterdon

Hunterdon County Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services 4 Gauntt Place Flemington, NJ 08822 Phone: 908-788-1361 After Hrs: 908-782-HELP (4357)

www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/aging.htm

#### Mercer

Mercer County Board of Social Services 200 Woolverton Street Trenton, NJ 08650 Phone: 609-989-4320 Ext. 1641 or 1642, 609-989-4346, 609-989-4347

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency www.mcboss.org

# Middlesex

Family and Children's Services
191 Bath Avenue
Long Branch, NJ 07740
Phone: 732-745-3635
After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

www.fcsmonmouth.org

#### Monmouth

Family and Children's Services 191 Bath Avenue Long Branch, NJ 07740 Phone: 732-531-9191 After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

www.fcsmonmouth.org

#### Morris

Morris County Division on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans P.O. Box 900 Morristown, NJ 07963-0900 Phone: 973-326-7282

After Hrs: Morris County Sheriff's Comm. Ctr.

at 973-285-2900

www.morrishumanservices.org

#### Ocean

Ocean County Board of Social Services 1027 Hooper Avenue Toms River, NJ 08754 Phone: 732-349-1500 After Hrs: 732-240-6100

www.co.ocean.nj.us/socialservices

#### **Passaic**

Passaic County Board of Social Services 80 Hamilton Street Paterson, NJ 07505 Phone: 973-881-2616 After Hrs: 973-345-2676

www.pcbss.org

#### Salem

Salem County ADRC-AAA 98 Market Street Salem, NJ 08079 Phone: 856-339-8622

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

www.salemcountynj.gov

#### Somerset

Somerset County Board of Social Services 73 East High Street P.O. Box 936 Somerville, NJ 08876 Phone: 908-526-8800 After Hrs: 1-800-287-3607

www.socialservices.co.somerset.nj.us/aps.htm

#### Sussex

Sussex County Division of Social Services P.O. Box 218 83 Spring Street Newton, NJ 07860 Phone: 973-383-3600

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### Union

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark (CCAN) 505 South Avenue E Cranford, NJ 07016 Phone: 908-497-3902

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

#### Warren

Warren County Division of Aging and Disability Services 165 County Route 519 South Belvidere, NJ 07823 Phone: 908-475-6591

After Hrs: Call local police or 911 in case of emergency

www.seniorservices.co.warren.nj.us

#### For additional information:

NJ Department of Human Services • Division of Aging Services • PO Box 812, Trenton, NJ 08625-0812

Phone: 609-588-6501 • After Hrs: 911 or local police

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/services/aps