Protecting At-risk Adults

 those adults most likely to be abused, neglected, and exploited.

CONTACTS

To report abuse, please call the local county social services office.

For more information, please call Colorado Aging & Adult Services, Adult Protection:

303-866-2800 (voice, TTD)

Or Call The Colorado Coalition for Elder Rights & Adult Protection:

303-866-2849

OR

1-800-773-1366

OR visit our website at:

www.cdh.s.state.co.us/ADRS/AAS/adprot.htm
Who are At-risk Adults?

At-risk adults are people over 18 with disabling conditions or seniors who are victims of abuse, neglect or other mistreatment.

- At-risk adults may have problems with their health and safety because they cannot care for themselves.
- At-risk adults may not be able to protect or care for themselves because they cannot understand or do not recognize that there is a problem.
- At-risk adults may be abused, neglected or taken advantage of by people they trust and rely on for care.

What is Abuse?

- **Physical abuse** is hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, burning, confining, or restraining an adult.

- **Sexual abuse** is sexual activity or touching without the adult’s consent or understanding.

- **Financial Exploitation** is the use of an at-risk adult’s money or property for another’s advantage.

- **Neglect** is a lack of food, shelter, clothing, or care provided to an at-risk adult by a caregiver.

- **Self-neglect** is the inability or unwillingness of an at-risk adult to care for herself or himself. Choice of lifestyle, by itself, is not proof of self-neglect.

Reporting Abuse

To report your concerns, contact the County Social Services or Human Services agency in the county where the adult lives. Ask for “Adult Protection.”

What Happens When You Report

When you call social services, any of the following things may happen:

1. A caseworker will get more information about the reported abuse by calling or visiting the at-risk adult or other interested parties.

2. A caseworker will help the adult get needed services that may solve the problem.*

3. The county staff person may provide you with helpful information.

*Note: An at-risk adult has the right to refuse county agency services.