



LOS ANGELES COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AGING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS) FACT SHEET

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Adult Protective Services (APS) is a 24-hour social service program which investigates reports of elder (65 or older) and dependent adult (18 – 64) abuse. The adults may be endangered and at risk due to abuse by another, which includes physical or sexual abuse, neglect, isolation, financial abuse, mental suffering, abandonment, and abduction. The adult may also be self-neglecting due to their inability to provide for their own needs and care. APS serves more than 42,000 elders and dependent adults annually.

LEGAL MANDATES

APS is mandated by the State of California to provide 24-hour social worker services to endangered elders and dependent adults.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Any endangered elder or dependent adult is eligible for APS services without regard to income.

FUNDING SOURCES

- Adult Protective Services allocation from the State General Fund
- County Services Block Grant
- Federal Title XIX
- County Matching Funds

THE APS PROGRAM INCLUDES:

• **After Hours Response Program**

This program operates in conjunction with the county's 24-hour toll free Elder Abuse Hotline. This includes social services staff who work evening and night shifts, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The Elder Abuse Hotline number is (877) 477-3646. This is an emergency response program, mandated by law to provide in-person response, 24 hours per day, seven days per week, to reports of abuse, neglect, or self-neglect of elders or dependent adults in immediate, life-threatening situations or in situations involving imminent danger.

• **Emergency Shelter Program**

Mandated by California law to the extent resources are available, Adult Protective Services arranges for emergency shelter placement, to guarantee a safe place for elders and dependent adults who meet the shelter criteria to stay until endangering elements in their homes can be resolved. Los Angeles County has contracted with a number of State-licensed Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly as well as Adult Residential Facilities throughout the County. These facilities are available to provide shelter services for APS clients who are in need of temporary emergency shelter, and whose impairments are appropriate for the level of care and supervision provided in such facilities.

• **Governmental Inquiries and Response Unit**

The APS Governmental Inquiries and Response Unit (GIR) receives referrals concerning elders and dependent adults from the Board of Supervisors and other government agencies and public officials. Many of these referrals meet the criteria for an Adult Protective Services case to be opened; others require only information and assistance by telephone, e-mail, or written correspondence. The Unit was established in 2001 due to an increase in referrals from such agencies.

