

INDICATORS

INDICATORS OF ABUSE

“ABUSE” means the infliction upon an adult by himself or others of injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation, or cruel punishment which results in physical harm, pain, or mental anguish.

- ❖ multiple/severe bruises, burns, welts
- ❖ bilateral bruises on upper arms or clustered bruises on trunk
- ❖ bruises which resemble an object-ex- bottles, belt buckles, etc.
- ❖ broken bones, open wounds, skull fractures
- ❖ signs of striking, shoving, beating, kicking, scratching
- ❖ internal injuries
- ❖ sprains, discolorations, lacerations, cuts, punctures
- ❖ black eyes, burns, scalding
- ❖ bed sores
- ❖ untreated medical conditions
- ❖ restrained, tied to bed, tied to chair, locked in rooms, isolated
- ❖ over medicated or under medicated
- ❖ verbal assaults, threats, intimidation
- ❖ prolonged interval between injury and treatment
- ❖ demonstrates fear of caregiver or refusal to visit alone with client
- ❖ recent or sudden changes in behaviors
- ❖ unexplained fear or unwarranted suspicions
- ❖ any forced or unwanted sexual activity

INDICATORS OF NEGLECT

“NEGLECT” means the failure of an adult to provide for himself the goods or services necessary to avoid physical harm, mental anguish, or mental illness or the failure of a caregiver to provide such goods or services.

- ❖ Untreated medical conditions and untreated mental health conditions
- ❖ Bedsores
- ❖ Malnourishment or dehydrations
- ❖ Dirt, fleas, lice, rodents, over populated animal population
- ❖ No functioning toilet
- ❖ Fecal matter and urine stains on bed, floor, etc
- ❖ No heat, running water, electricity
- ❖ Homelessness or frequent moves
- ❖ Lack of food or inadequate amount of food, spoiled foods
- ❖ Lacks appropriate supervision when needed
- ❖ Hazardous living conditions, collection of newspaper or debris in home
- ❖ Inappropriate or inadequate clothing
- ❖ Unpaid bills or refusal to inform of bills or financial matters

INDICATORS OF EXPLOITATION:

“EXPLOITATION” means the unlawful or improper act of a caretaker using an adult or his resources for monetary or personal benefit, profit, or gain.

- ❖ Unexplained disappearances of funds or valuables
- ❖ Dependent relationships (ex. Adult child dependent upon the older adult)
- ❖ Older adult is dependent upon alleged perpetrator for all daily needs
- ❖ Misuse of money or property by another person
- ❖ Transfer of property, savings
- ❖ Excessive payment for care and/or services
- ❖ Adult unaware of income amounts
- ❖ Sudden appearance of previously uninvolved relatives/friends/neighbors
- ❖ Change in payee, power of attorney, will, beneficiaries
- ❖ Caregiver is overly frugal or unexplained cash flow
- ❖ The adult is kept isolated
- ❖ Signatures on checking that do not resemble the adults signature
- ❖ Documents signed when the adult is unable to sign or did not what they signed
- ❖ Adult complains about not knowing what happened to money
- ❖ New debit or credit cards opened in adults name
- ❖ Checks or bank statements no longer coming to the house
- ❖ Unusual household composition
- ❖ Chronic failure to pay bills
- ❖ Personal belongings missing from house