

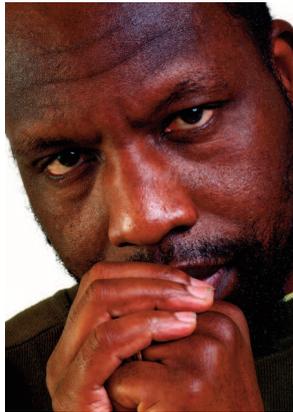
How can I help?

Anyone who suspects that an adult age 60 years or older or an adult with a disability age 18-59 is being mistreated by someone should call:

- ▶ The Department on Aging's 24-Hour **Adult Protective Services Hotline: 1-866-800-1409**

The Adult Protective Services Program helps determine services available through local community agencies. Reports may also be made directly to the Adult Protective Services Provider Agency where the adult resides. For local information visit: www.illinois.gov/aging/ProtectionAdvocacy/Pages/abuse.aspx

Callers should be prepared to report the alleged victim's name and address, what happened, where and when it happened, who the suspected abuser might be, circumstances which led to the report, and whether the alleged victim is in immediate danger.



What happens after a report of abuse?



Under the Illinois Adult Protective Services Act, a provider agency designated to receive reports of alleged or suspected abuse, neglect or financial exploitation shall conduct a face-to-face assessment with respect to reports it receives.

A trained caseworker will interview the person who has allegedly been abused and, if appropriate, assist them in accessing resources and services that may improve their situation. A provider agency shall also refer evidence of crimes against eligible adults to law enforcement.

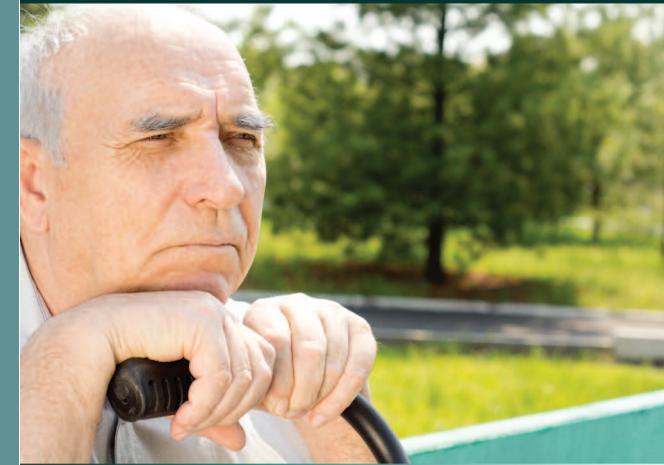
Confidential

All reports are kept confidential, and anonymous reports are accepted.



State of Illinois
Department on Aging

**ENOUGH
IS
ENOUGH!**



Report Abuse of Older Adults
and Adults with Disabilities



**State of Illinois
Department on Aging**
One Natural Resources Way,
Suite 100
Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
Senior HelpLine:
1-800-252-8966,
1-888-206-1327 (TTY)
www.illinois.gov/aging

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966, 1-888-206-1327 (TTY).

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Do I know what Adult Abuse is?

Adult abuse is a term referring to any negligent act by a caregiver or any other individual that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult. Illinois law defines abuse, neglect and financial exploitation as:

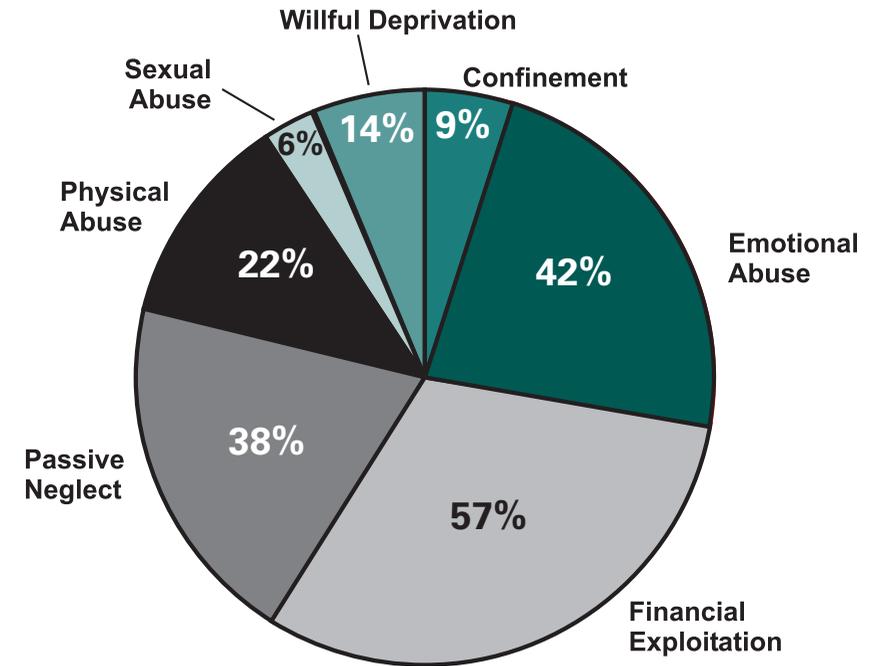
- ▶ **Physical abuse** — inflicting physical pain or injury upon an adult.
- ▶ **Sexual abuse** — touching, fondling, intercourse, or any other sexual activity with an adult, when the adult is unable to understand, unwilling to consent, threatened or physically forced.
- ▶ **Emotional abuse** — verbal assaults, threats of maltreatment, harassment or intimidation.
- ▶ **Confinement** — restraining or isolating an adult, other than for medical reasons.
- ▶ **Passive neglect** — the caregiver's failure to provide an adult with life's necessities, including, but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter or medical care.
- ▶ **Willful deprivation** — deliberate denial of an adult's

medication, medical care, shelter, food, a therapeutic device or other physical assistance, and thereby exposing that adult to the risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm — except when the adult has expressed an intent to forego such care.

- ▶ **Financial exploitation** — the misuse or withholding of an adult's resources by another, to the disadvantage of the adult or the profit or advantage of someone else.

What else do I need to know?

- ▶ **Adult abuse does not discriminate.** Adult abuse can affect people of all ethnic backgrounds and social status and can affect both men and women. An abuse victim may be your neighbor, friend or family member. It is estimated that only one in every five cases of adult abuse is reported.
- ▶ **We must all do our part to report abuse.** In State FY 2014, nearly 15,000 reports of adult abuse were made in Illinois.
- ▶ **Your report can make a difference.** Reporting adult abuse gives victims the opportunity to receive the help they need to stop the abuse, and can reduce their risk of abuse in the future.

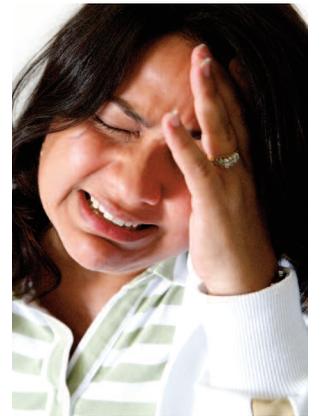


Types of Adult Abuse Reported

What should I do if I suspect abuse of an older adult or an adult with a disability?

Report.

- ▶ **Voluntary Reporters.** Any person can voluntarily report. By law, anyone making an adult abuse report in good faith has civil and criminal immunity from liability and professional disciplinary action.
- ▶ **Mandated Reporters.** Certain professionals are required by law to report suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation of persons age 60 years and over or adults with disabilities age 18-59 who live in the community and "because of a disability or other condition or impairment are unable to report for themselves." Among those required to report suspected abuse are: doctors, nurses, psychologists, dentists, social service workers and law enforcement personnel.



No matter who reports, the identity of the reporter is not disclosed without the written permission of the reporter or by order of a court.