



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR MANDATORY REPORTING

It is the policy of Guiding Hands Coalition, to report any witnessed or suspected wrongful activity to the appropriate authorities during the course of providing Guiding hands services for DSHS customers and all AL TSA clientele, including:

Elder Abuse Reporting Requirements

Mandatory Reporters are professionals identified by law who MUST make a report if they have reason to believe that the abuse, abandonment, neglect or financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult has occurred. Mandatory reporters are:

- Employees of the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
- Law Enforcement.
- Social Workers.
- Professional School Personnel.
- Contracted Individual Providers caring for a DSHS client
- Employees for social service welfare, mental health, home care, hospice, home health, adult day care and adult day health agency.
- Owners or employees of nursing homes, boarding homes, or adult family homes.
- Health Care Providers subject to Title 18 RCW (such as nurses and doctors).
- Christian Science Practitioner.

Any person can report abuse-even if you are not a mandatory reporter

Reporting Abuse as a Mandatory Reporter

As a mandatory reporter, you MUST by law make a report if you have reason to believe abuse, abandonment, neglect, or financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult has occurred.

To report abuse or neglect of a vulnerable in Washington State, call the Adult Protective Services Hotline at 1-800-459-0421.

Mandatory reporter must also make a report to law enforcement if the suspect a vulnerable adult has been sexually or physically assaulted, or if they have reasonable cause to believe that an act has caused fear of imminent harm.

Mandatory reporters may not have to make a report to law enforcement for some types of physical assault between two. For these types of physical assault, see RCW 74.34.035(4)

Mandatory reporters are also required by law to report a death to the local Medical Examiner or Coroner if there is a reason to suspect that the death of a vulnerable adult was caused by abuse.

When You Call APS

You will be asked to give the person's name, address, contact information and details about why you are concerned. You will also be asked for your name and number or some way of contacting you if the investigator has follow-up questions. Unless there is a court action, law enforcement has been called in, or you agree, your identity is confidential. If you report in good faith, you cannot be held liable for any damages resulting from reporting.

Date: _____ Signature: _____