



Who we Are:

Adult Protective Services (APS) social workers advocate for adults at risk, and provide intervention and support to Sauk County residents. For adults found to be legally incompetent and a danger to themselves or others, the social workers coordinate guardianship/protective placement and services.

Who we Serve:

Adults at risk are individuals age 18-59 with a physical or mental condition that impairs the ability to care for their needs.

Elder adults at risk are individuals age 60 or older, who have experienced or is at risk of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation. Adults at risk may suffer abuse from friends, neighbors, caregivers, or strangers.



What is Abuse and Neglect:

Abuse refers to intentional or neglectful acts by a caregiver or “trusted” individual that lead to, or may lead to, harm of a vulnerable adult.



Community Resources:

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| Sauk County Crisis Line (Call weekends and evenings 24 hours) | 1-800-533-5692 |
| Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Baraboo | 608-355-3289 |
| Alzheimer’s Association | 1-800-272-3900 |
| Capital Consortium (BadgerCare, Food Share) | 1-888-794-5556 |
| Energy Assistance | 608-356-8887 |
| Hope House | 1-800-584-6790 |
| Tenant Resource Center | 608-257-0006 1-877-238-7368 |
| Heroin and Opioid Help | 608-402-4312 |

Signs of Abuse or Neglect:

Physical:

- Unexplained bruising, welt marks, cuts, puncture wounds, bites.
- Burns, scalding, sprains, dislocations, fractures.
- Repeated hospital admissions.

Behavioral:

- Agitation, anxiety, withdrawal, isolation.
- Confusion, contradictory statements.
- Fear, depression, anger, resignation.
- Disorientation, wandering.
- Hesitation to talk openly or non-responsiveness.



Financial:

- Sudden changes in bank account activity; additional names on bank signature card.
- Unauthorized withdrawal of funds, forged signatures on checks and other documents.
- Change in power of attorney, house title, or wills when an adult is incapable of decisions.
- Numerous unpaid bills when someone else is in charge of finances.
- Inappropriate exchange of property or financial assets for caregiver's personal gain.
- Threats, enticement or other manipulation to exploit an adult at risk.
- Online or telephone financial scams.

Neglect/Self-Neglect:

- Dehydration or malnutrition, noticeable weight loss.
- Poor hygiene, housekeeping or hoarding.
- Bizarre, inappropriate behavior.
- Incontinence that has not been assessed.
- Increased substance use, mismanagement of medications, or other serious unmet medical needs.