

Adult Protective Services (APS) Redesign PROJECT SCOPE

While the Vulnerable Adult Act (VAA) regulates the reporting of, and investigation into, allegations of maltreatment of vulnerable adults across different settings - including those licensed by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health - the focus of this review is county and tribal-based Adult Protective Services (APS). APS is the lead investigative agency for reports of maltreatment in community settings and where the alleged perpetrator is not a licensed care provider or employee of a licensed care facility. Being the lead investigative agency, APS is responsible for providing adult protective services when reports of alleged maltreatment fall into their jurisdiction. APS is also responsible for providing protective services when another LIA requests assistance, and whenever emergency protective services are required.

Law Enforcement

The common entry point (MAARC) and any LIA

notifies and cooperates with law enforcement when there is reason to believe a crime has been committed DHS is the lead investigative agency for facilities or services that are licensed, or required to be licensed, by DHS, including; adult day care and foster care, community residential settings, programs for people with disabilities, family adult day services, mental health Department Department

of Human

Services

(DHS)

DHS can request assistance from a

county or tribal social service agency

for adult protective services

DHS is also responsible for operating the common entry point and shared information systems, tracking reports, and providing training and standardized decision making tools to county APS.

programs, chemical dependency programs, and the Minnesota sex

offender program.

Lead Investigative **Agencies**

MDH is the lead investigative agency for facilities or services that are licensed, or required to be licensed, by MDH for the care of vulnerable adults, including: hospitals, home care providers, nursing homes, boarding care homes, hospice providers, and federally certified intermediate care facilities serving people with developmental disabilities.

MDH, can request assistance from a county or tribal social service agency , for adult protective services

of Health

(MDH)

I FOCUS FOR APS REDESIGN:

Adult **Protective** Services (APS)

INVESTIGATIONS

County or tribal APS is the lead investigative agency for all other reports.

APS is also responsible for providing emergency protective services, regardless of setting.

Emergency Protective Services

Adult Protective Services

When a report is accepted, APS conducts an investigation into allegations of maltreatment. Investigations include, as appropriate, interviewing, examining the environment, reviewing records, and consulting other professionals. Investigations conclude in a final determination of whether the report of maltreatment was false, substantiated, inconclusive, or that no determination is made.

Safety planning and the provision of adult protective services are intended to be part of APS investigation activities

As a result of a report of alleged maltreatment, it may be determined that the vulnerable adult would benefit from protective services, regardless of the determination of the investigation. Standardized tools are intended to support person-centered safety planning that will maximize both safety and independence. Services are voluntary, but APS can use involuntary interventions when necessary to protect a vulnerable adult from serious harm of substantiated maltreatment.

SERVICES