



Adult Protective Services

The Arkansas Adult Protective Services unit investigates reported cases of maltreatment of endangered or impaired adults. Adult maltreatment includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Endangered or Impaired Adults

Arkansas law defines endangered adults as those over age 18 who are in a situation or condition posing a danger to themselves and they lack the capacity to comprehend the nature and consequences of remaining in that situation or condition. An impaired adult is defined as one is over 18 and has a disability that severely and continually diminishes their physical or mental ability to live independently or to provide self-care.

APS Can

APS can confirm the health and safety of endangered or impaired adults and determine if maltreatment occurred. We can also work to recruit family to help with the care of a maltreated endangered or impaired adult. We can help endangered or impaired adults apply for Medicaid, home health services, or assisted living or nursing home services. APS can refer endangered or impaired adults to service providers to help ensure their safety needs are met. Even if an adult does not meet the criteria of endangered or impaired or is not the victim of maltreatment, APS can suggest supportive services.

Grant Awards

Arkansas APS has been awarded \$1.1 million from the Administration of Community Living Elder Justice Grant to enhance our state's services. APS has used funds to expand the training and staff development of APS Investigators to best serve victims of maltreatment and their families. The funds have also been used toward community outreach to raise awareness of APS and trending issues in the vulnerable adult population as well as to build more collaborative relationships and improve communication with partners and stakeholders for the benefit of APS clients. The funds have also been used to improve APS data collection and reporting to local, state, and federal agencies. APS was also gifted \$831,000 in COVID-19 relief to purchase protective equipment and supplies. And supplement the APS budget for new expenses identified due to the pandemic. APS is also in the process of applying for \$760,000 in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to improve existing APS processes and establish new processes for responding to financial scams of vulnerable adults, among other issues.

