



# NATIONAL ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES ASSOCIATION

## ***What is NAPSA?***

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The National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) is a national non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization with members in all fifty states. Formed in 1989, the goal of NAPSA is to provide Adult Protective Services (APS) programs a forum for sharing information, solving problems, and improving the quality of services for victims of elder and vulnerable adult mistreatment. Its mission is to strengthen the capacity of APS at the national, state, and local levels, to effectively and efficiently recognize, report, and respond to the needs of elders and adults with disabilities who are the victims of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and to prevent such abuse whenever possible.

To fulfill its mission, NAPSA:

- Operates the [National APS Resource Center](#) to provide APS systems, agencies, and professionals with current and relevant information and support to enhance the quality, consistency, and effectiveness of APS programs across the country.
- [Partners](#) with many diverse organizations to provide a cohesive network of research, practice and policy to meet the diverse needs of the ever-changing population of vulnerable adults.
- Actively conducts national [research](#) on topics such as APS training activities, services to self-neglecting adults, and national APS data collection as well as partnering with academic researchers on elder and vulnerable adult mistreatment studies.
- Hosts an [annual conference](#) and a national summit on financial exploitation featuring nationally known and respected professionals who share their expertise on cutting-edge issues applicable to APS practice and other disciplines.
- Works to increase national awareness of elder and vulnerable adult mistreatment through education, advocacy, and congressional testimony.

## ***Mission Statement***

The National Adult Protective Services Association's mission is to strengthen Adult Protective Services programs in order to improve the safety and independence of older persons and adults with disabilities who are victims of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation.

## ***What is Adult Protective Services?***

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Adult Protective Services (APS) is a social services program provided by state and local governments nationwide serving seniors and adults with disabilities who are in need of assistance. APS workers frequently serve as first responders in cases of abuse, neglect or exploitation, working closely with a wide variety of allied professionals such as physicians, nurses, paramedics, firefighters and law enforcement officers.

## ***How APS Helps***

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Most seniors and adults with disabilities live independently without assistance, however, some face abuse or neglect by others and need trained professionals to advocate on their behalf. Others may simply be struggling with routine activities and benefit from in-home support services to maintain their health and independence. APS helps by assessing each individual's unique needs, then developing a service plan to maintain his/her safety, health and independence.