

State of Adult Protective Services Baseline Assessment - 2012

Response ID: 204 Data

1. State of Adult Protection Services Baseline Assessment

1. Respondent Information

Name of person completing this assessment : Barbara Pastirik
Title of person completing this assessment : APS Program Adiministrator
State : Georgia
Email Address : bapastirik@dhr.state.ga.us
Telephone Number : 404-657-3421

2. APS Administrator Information

3. Where is your APS Program administratively located?

In the State Unit on Aging (SUA)

4. 3a) Please describe other, or add any clarifying comments on how your APS program fits within your state government:

4. To whom does the APS Administrator report?

State Unit on Aging (SUA) Director

5. How is APS administered in your state?

State administered (APS employees are all state employees)

7. 5a) If county-administered, which county agency administers APS?

8. 5b) If county or locally administered, does the State APS Office have oversight responsibility for local APS? For example, does the state set policy/ provided the training and/or monitor local APS services?

6. How many full-time state positions are in the APS program: (please provide full-time equivalents (FTEs), so if you have three half-time intake specialists who only accept reports for APS, you would state that you have 1.5 full-time intake positions). "Investigators/Caseworkers" refers to your APS field staff who work directly with clients; different states use different terms.

	Number of FTEs
State Administrative Staff	2
State Training Staff	1
Supervisors	21
Investigators/Caseworkers	167
Intake Staff	12
IT Staff	1
Legal Staff	0
Other	30

7. Is this an increase or decrease from the past 5 years?

Increase

11. 7a) If increased, by what percentage (approximately):

1

12. 7b) If decreased, by what percentage (approximately):

8. Do the staff listed below work in APS only?

	Yes	No	N/A
State Administrative Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Training Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supervisors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Investigators/Caseworkers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Case Workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intake Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IT Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. 8a) If no, what other programs do they work in?

9. What, if any, are the minimal education requirements for each position?

	Minimal Education Requirements
State Admin. Staff	College Degree
State Training Staff	College Degree
Supervisors	College Degree
Investigators/Caseworkers	College Degree
IT Staff	College Degree
Intake Staff	College Degree
Legal Staff	
Other	High School

10. If your system is state administered, do you provide APS field staff with the following:

	Yes	No
Smart phones (iPhone, Blackberry, Android)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cell phones (phone only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptops or tablet PCs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State vehicles to use for work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

17. 10a) If state vehicles are not provided, are workers reimbursed for work related mileage (or public transportation fares)?

Yes

18. 10b) If yes, what is the current mileage reimbursement rate? (\$/mi.)

\$51 / per mile

11. Does your APS Program have a case review quality assurance system in place?

Yes

20. 11a) If yes, are all cases reviewed (check all that apply)?

No

12. Please provide the contact person who can provide more information about the quality controls measures

Name : Barbara Pastirik

Title : APS Program Director

Email : bapastirik@dhr.state.ga.us

Phone : 404-657-3421

13. Does APS have regular, case level access to expertise/consultation from:

	Yes	No
Attorneys	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physicians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physician Assistants and/or Nurses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health Professionals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forensics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accountants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. If other, please specify:

Multi-Disciplinary Teams

15. Does your APS program track annual staff turnover rates?

Yes

25. 15a) If yes, please provide any additional information you can:

16. Does the Program have case performance measures (benchmarks/metrics) in place (e.g. timeliness of response; supervisor involvement; recidivism rates)?

2. Scope of APS

17. What is the age range for eligible clients?

18+

28. 17a) For clients aged 60+ or 65+ only, must the alleged victim be defined as vulnerable before APS can open the case or is anyone 60 years and older eligible for APS?

18. Your APS Program is responsible for abuse investigations in (check all that apply):

Community Settings

Care Homes/Board Homes

Other (specify): Host Homes

19. Does APS petition for guardianship in your state?

Yes

20. Do APS employees serve as guardians?

No

21. Does your APS program serve as representative payee for Social Security/Railroad Retirement client benefits?

No

22. The following questions are about intake:

	Yes	No
Is your intake centralized?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a toll free number?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

34. 22a) If yes to either above, is the APS intake line combined with another program's intake (such as CPS or aging services)?

No

23. Do you accept reports 24 hours a day?

No

36. 23a) If available 24 hours, is the line (check all that apply):

37. 23b) If no, what happens to after-hours reports?

Reporter can leave name and number

38. 23c) Do you respond (go out on) cases 24 hours a day?

24. What is the shortest timeframe in which APS must initiate a case?

Other (explain): 10 days

25. Are investigation time frames triaged depending on allegations?

No

26. Must APS complete investigations within a certain timeframe?

Yes, 30 days

27. Must APS close cases within a specific time frame?

Yes, as soon as the investigation is complete

28. Is there required regular contact with the victim of an open case?

Yes

44. 28a) If yes, please check all that apply:

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
In person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
By Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

45. 28b) If other, describe:

29. Which of the following services does APS provide to victims: (Direct=via APS personnel; Indirect=via referral to outside services)

	Yes	Yes, Indirect	Yes, both	No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Developing a case plan	✓			
Counseling		✓		
Advocacy with other systems	✓			
Money Management	✓			
Legal Interventions		✓		
In-home services			✓	
Home Delivered Meals		✓		
Medical Services		✓		
Placement			✓	
Environmental Cleanup		✓		

47. 29a) If indirectly through referrals, does APS continue monitoring the case after the referrals are made?

Yes, some cases

3. Budget Information

30. From the most recent state fiscal year data, please describe how much money is allocated from each funding source (answer should be dollar amount):

	State Funds	SSBG	OAA	Medicaid (TCM)	County Funds	Department of Justice	Other Local	Other	Information not Available
State	11,944,592	2,219,116	-	500,000		-		611,520	
County*									
Other (describe)									
Other									
TOTAL	11,944,592	2,219,116		500,000				611,520	
Amount over or under previous year. Indicate under with a minus sign.	+	=		=				=	

31. Please provide any additional budgetary information:

Other is Civil Monetary Money

4. Report Information - Statewide Report Totals

32. For the previous year, please provide the number of statewide report totals by age of vulnerable adult if possible; by total numbers if age breakdown is not available.

	Age 60+	Age 18-59	Total
Self-Neglect	2571	862	
Physical Abuse	1227	685	
Emotional Abuse			

Sexual Abuse	13	51	
Neglect by others	2109	867	
Financial abuse	1623	488	
Other abuse (describe below)	37	24	
Total			

33. If other, please describe:

Other is self-abuse / also have a total of 445 reports that age was not indicated bringing the total to 11,002 / of which 9,090 are unduplicated

34. Is the total number of statewide reports an increase or decrease from the past 5 years?

Increase

51. 34a) If increase, by what percentage (approximately):

20

52. 34b) If decrease, by what percentage (approximately):

35. Please provide the number of statewide substantiated report totals by age of vulnerable adult if possible; by total numbers if age breakdown is not available.

	Number Substantiated (60+)	Number Substantiated (18-59)	Total
Self-Neglect	1912	767	
Physical Abuse	274	152	
Emotional Abuse			
Sexual Abuse	5	18	
Neglect by others	315	153	
Financial abuse	487	92	
Other abuse (describe below)	378	214	
Total			

36. If other, please describe:

Other is Seif-Abuse / also have 110 cases substantiated that the age was not indicated bringing the total to 4,777 of which 4,057 are unduplicated

37. Is the total the number of statewide substantiated report an increase or decrease from the past 5 years?

Increase

56. 37a) If increase, by what percentage (approximately):

20

57. 37b) If decrease, by what percentage (approximately):

38. What is the statewide average caseload (including new and ongoing cases) for Investigators/Caseworkers?

24

39. Is the statewide average caseload per caseworker/investigators an increase or decrease over the past 5 years?

Increase

60. 39a) If increase, by what percentage (approximately):

1

61. 39b) If decrease, by what percentage (approximately):

40. If the program is state-administered, what is the average ratio (e.g. 1:10) of:

Supervisors to Investigators/Caseworkers : 1:11

41. Does your state law mandate reporting of suspected adult abuse to APS?

Yes

64. 41a) If yes, is reporting mandated for:

All vulnerable adults aged 18+

65. 41b) If yes, in your state, who is a mandated reporter?

Social Services

Law Enforcement

Aging services providers

Disability services providers

Government employees

Health care professionals

Financial professionals

Funeral Directors

5. Case Level APS Data Collected Statewide

42. Does your state have an automated (computerized) data system for APS?

Yes

43. Does county (or local) case level data feed into the state data system?

Not applicable

44. Which of the following pieces of data do you collect at the state level (check all that apply)?

Number of reports

Individual allegations

Reporter type (family, neighbor, social worker, etc.)

Victim age

Victim gender

Victim Ethnicity

Victim's residence type (home; senior housing; assisted living; board and care; foster care; nursing home, etc.)

Risk assessment

Interventions offered/provided

Days case remains open

Reason for case closure

Client Outcomes

45. Please check all assessment tools used: (check all that apply)

DON-R (Determination of Need – Revised)

State specific tool

46. If automated, what type of data system does your state use?

Built by state personnel

71. 46a) If purchased, from what company?

47. Is the data system APS only or integrated with other systems

Integrated with other systems

73. 47a) If integrated, is it with:

Other (describe): With in Aging Services Programs

48. Does the system keep track of all reports/cases involving the same client over time?

Yes

49. How recently did you adopt your automated data system?

3-5 years ago

50. Is your automated data system web based?

Yes

51. Does your automated data system allow for case notes?

Yes

6. Training Information

52. APS-Specific training is required by:

	Investigator/Caseworker	Supervisor
Statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Local Policy		
Not Required		
Other (explain):		

53. How much pre-service (new worker) APS-specific training is provided for investigators/caseworkers?

3 weeks/120 hours

54. What type of content is provided in APS-specific training (check all that apply)?

- Policy
- Intake
- Investigations
- Casework
- Worker Safety
- Communications/interviewing
- Legal issues
- Aging Process
- Disabilities Information

55. How much in-service (existing staff) training is provided for investigators/caseworkers per year?

2 weeks/80 hours

82. 55a) What content does APS-specific In-services training include (check all that apply)?

- Policy
- Intake
- Investigations

Case Management
 Data Systems
 Documentation
 Assessing capacity/competency
 Worker Safety
 Communications/interviewing
 Legal issues
 Aging Process
 Disabilities Information

56. Does your program provide training for APS supervisors?

Yes, APS supervisors attend supervisor training that is not specific to APS

84. 56a) If yes, What content does APS-specific supervisor training include (check all that apply)?

57. How is the majority of your APS training provided?

If more than one method is used to train, please check all the methods that apply (e.g. classroom and online)

	Investigator/Caseworker (Pre-Hire, pre-service)	Investigator/Caseworker (Ongoing, in-service)_	Supervisor
Directly by APS Program Staff	✓	✓	✓
Via contract with University or other entity*			
In a classroom	✓	✓	✓
Online (e-learning)	✓	✓	✓
On the Job	✓	✓	✓
Other**			

58. Specify

59. Do you have APS specific/dedicated trainers?

Yes, on staff

60. Is there a certification process?

No

89. 60a) If yes, is certification based on testing?

61. What is the annual training budget?

7. Multidisciplinary Teams

62. Does APS participate on multi-disciplinary teams?

Yes

92. 62a) How many multi-disciplinary teams within the state does APS participate in (estimated)?

40+

93. 62b) Are multi-disciplinary teams required by:

Not required

94. 62c) How are multi-disciplinary teams funded?

Not funded

95. 62d) If multi-disciplinary teams receive federal funding, please check all that apply:

96. 62e) What organizations/professionals regularly participate in multi-disciplinary teams?

Varies according to the cases under review

97. 62f) What is the purpose of this multi-disciplinary work?

case reviews (financial abuse, for example)
public awareness
policy initiatives
training

63. Are there elder fatality review teams in place in your state?

No

99. 63a) If yes, please provide the locations and contact information for the primary coordinator, if available.

64. Has your program executed agreements to facilitate cross-county, cross-state or interagency cooperation?

Yes

101. 64a) What form of agreements has your program entered into (check all that apply)?

inter-agency cooperative agreements (specify agency):

65. How much of a barrier are confidentiality restrictions to multi-disciplinary and interagency work?

Moderately significant barrier

66. Is APS required to report cases to law enforcement?

Yes

104. 66a) If yes, in which cases do you report to law enforcement?

Cases upon being reported where there is indication of criminal activity
All substantiated cases

67. Does your state have an APS abuser registry?

No

106. 67a) If yes, is the abuser registry required by state statute?

107. 67b) If yes, is the abuser registry:

108. 67c) other registries

109. 67d) What is the annual budget for the registry?

110. 67e) Who can be contacted for more information about the registry?

111. 67f) What due process does APS afford the alleged perpetrator and victim?

	Perpetrators	Victims
Notification of allegations		
Notification of substantiation decision		
Right to appeal		
Hearing		

Other

112. 67g) If other, please describe:

68. Has your APS program conducted any broad-based, multi-faceted public awareness campaigns (e.g., billboards, public service announcements, etc. – not just program brochures)?

Yes, APS Program Campaign

114. 68a) If yes, do you have any World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) materials or activities developed?

No

115. 68b) If yes, please provide contact information for the person we can follow-up with to learn more information:

69. If your state published an annual APS report, please provide a link:

8. Open Ended

70. What are the three biggest improvements your APS program has implemented in the past five years?

Data Management System (AIMS) Transition of Guardianship Case Management out from APS Investigations Discontinue of Representative Payee

71. What are the three biggest challenges facing APS in your state?

Transitioning vulnerable adults from a protective environment back into the community Increase caseloads, increased reports of ANE along with decreased budget Other agency and community resource fading or being eliminated causing APS to be the "dumping" ground for solution

72. Is there anything you want to tell us about your APS Program which we failed to ask?

Response Location

Region:	United States
Region:	GA
City:	Atlanta
Postal Code:	
Long & Lat:	Lat: 33.8004, Long:-84.386497