

# Crow Wing County Adult Protection Priorities

As Directed by MN Statutes 626.557 Subd. 9b

Revised: July 25, 2022

The following document is Crow Wing County's Adult Protection Priorities and Response Guidelines. At least two people will review all reports received from the Common Entry Point (CEP) when the Structured Decision Making (SDM) Tool does not initially screen them out; this is to determine if the report meets criteria for Adult Protection. The Screening Team will review any report in question. The Screening team will meet as needed to review reports until completed.

- All specific allegations of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult (per 626.5572 Subd 21) without mental capacity will be screened in for investigation.
- All non-specific allegations of abuse of a vulnerable adult shall be screened out for assessment/investigation. Screening in will be by exception only by the team.
- In cases in which the individual is not a categorical VA. If mental capacity is unknown, the report can be screened in at the screening team's discretion, to assess the vulnerable adult's mental capacity. If the vulnerable adult is determined to have the mental capacity to make their own decisions, services will be offered and the adult protection assessment will be closed.
- Crow Wing County will give consideration to multiple reports in which the vulnerable adult status remains questionable. All allegations of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation of vulnerable adults who are believed to have mental capacity and have previous reports of maltreatment will be considered for possible screening in for new assessment and/or investigation regardless of previous screenings.
- Cases alleging financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult will not be accepted for investigation unless the report demonstrates that there was a reasonable detriment to the Vulnerable Adult.
- Crow Wing County will not investigate vulnerable adult reports:
  - Involving alleged victims currently incarcerated due to potential conflicts of interest. Inmates of the jail can use current grievance protocol within the jail. Other reports can be made to the DOC: [Inspection & Enforcement Unit / Department of Corrections \(mn.gov\)](http://Inspection & Enforcement Unit / Department of Corrections (mn.gov)) .
  - Crow Wing County Social Services will inform the Sheriff's office on any report of neglect or maltreatment received by social services involving vulnerable adult inmates while in jail.
  - Involving alleged victims that are deceased unless the report indicates there may be other possible victims.
  - That involve maltreatment of one vulnerable adult to another vulnerable adult.
- Crow Wing County will follow the SDM for all other screening decisions.

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RESPONSE	CIRCUMSTANCES	POTENTIAL RESPONDERS
Onsite same day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life Threatening</li> <li>• Likely to experience severe injury due to maltreatment</li> <li>• Abandoned and in need of care and supervision</li> <li>• Evidence of serious bruises, unexplained debilitating injuries w/the alleged perpetrator still present</li> <li>• Severe weather response; sleeping unprotected in winter; or medically compromised without ventilation in the summer.</li> <li>• Imminent danger due to abandonment etc. for persons unable to care for self or no other immediate options.</li> <li>• Lack of or refusal to access critical medical care, food, shelter and other necessities if not addressed immediately will most likely result in injury or death.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Protection Social Worker</li> <li>• Mobile Crisis Outreach Team</li> <li>• Local Law Enforcement</li> <li>• Medical/Psychiatric Responders</li> <li>• Client Case Manager</li> </ul>
Within 24 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of maltreatment to a vulnerable adult, but not in need of same day response.</li> <li>• Substantial evidence that a vulnerable adult's resources will be confiscated or otherwise lost if immediate action is not taken to address the perpetrator.</li> <li>• Sexual Assault reported to have occurred within the last 72 hours, with no medical or law enforcement response.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Protection Social Worker</li> <li>• Mobile Crisis Outreach Team</li> <li>• Local Law Enforcement</li> <li>• Medical/Psychiatric Responders</li> <li>• Client Case Manager</li> </ul>
From 24 hours to 48 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Response requires sufficient mobilization of resources and/or information before contact.</li> <li>• Terroristic situations when a site visit without legal support places the VA at increased risk.</li> <li>• Situations that are a danger to the assigned social worker or other professionals (e.g. homes with hazardous waste, clients with infectious diseases, persons who have weapons and are an alleged threat)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Protection Social Worker</li> <li>• Mobile Crisis Outreach Response</li> <li>• Local Law Enforcement</li> <li>• Client Case Manager</li> </ul>
48 hours to 72 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allegation is unclear, or vulnerability is questionable, contact with reporter, medical provider and other collaterals is necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Protection Social Worker</li> </ul>

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Coordinated Responses (Times vary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Response is coordinated with a criminal investigation; local law enforcement primary investigator, situation not life threatening, nor risk of imminent serious harm.</li><li>Response requires coordination with city officials or environmental management (public health authority)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Local Law Enforcement</li><li>Housing or Public Health Authority</li></ul>
Not able to be seen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Unable to locate the VA, whereabouts unknown or operating from faulty information.</li><li>VA unwilling to see investigator; sufficient information from one or more persons close to the VA reporting the VA is not neglected or abused.</li></ul>	