Maltreatment could include:

- **ABUSE:** Including physical, emotional and sexual abuse; use of restraints; and/or involuntary seclusion or punishment

- **NEGLECT:** Failure by a caregiver to fulfill a caretaking obligation

- **SELF-NEGLECT:** Failure by a vulnerable adult to adequately provide for their own health and safety, including having enough food, shelter, clothing, health care and/or supervision

- **FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION:** Unauthorized use of a vulnerable adult’s funds or property, including theft or withholding of money or property and/or use of money or property not for the vulnerable adult’s benefit

**MALTREATMENT COULD HAPPEN... Anywhere, by Anyone**

- Abuse, neglect and financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult could occur anywhere – from one’s own home to a nursing home; from an assisted living facility to an adult day program. Abusers include spouses, children, staff and caregivers. A vulnerable adult who is no longer able to care for themselves could also be in danger of “self-neglect.”

**Vulnerable Adults in Minnesota NEED YOUR HELP**

A vulnerable adult is anyone over age 18 who:

- **COULD HAVE** a physical, mental or emotional need that makes it hard for them to care for themselves without assistance

- **COULD BE** in a hospital, nursing home, transitional care unit, assisted living, housing with services, board and care, foster care or other licensed care facility

- **COULD RECEIVE** services such as home care, day services, licensed services, or other personal care

Maltreatment of vulnerable adults is a real and serious issue in Minnesota. It’s under-reported because people don’t know what to look for, don’t know how to help, or just don’t want to get involved.

**You doing something COULD BE all the difference.**

**THAT’S THE POWER OF COULD**

Call: 1-844-880-1574 or visit: mn.gov/dhs/adult-protection
What You Do Could Be the Difference
Report suspected maltreatment of a vulnerable adult by calling the Minnesota Adult Abuse Reporting Center at 1-844-880-1574.
The toll-free phone line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Your identity will remain confidential and the appropriate investigative agencies will follow up on your report.
For serious or immediate danger, CALL 9-1-1.

YOU COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Signs of Maltreatment COULD BE
These are some signs that could be maltreatment and should alert you that a report should be made:

PHYSICAL SIGNS
■ Bruises and skin tears
■ Black eyes, sunken eyes or cheeks, or poor coloration
■ Broken bones, burns, cuts or infections
■ Incontinence
■ Dehydration
■ Lack of necessities such as food, water, or utilities
■ Repeated falls

BEHAVIORAL SIGNS
■ Increased agitation, combativeness or confusion
■ Fear or anxiety
■ Depression or non-responsiveness
■ Isolation or withdrawal
■ Conflicting statements
■ Hesitation to talk openly

FINANCIAL SIGNS
■ Unpaid bills
■ Lack of access to their own money
■ Sudden changes made to will or banking practices
■ Unexplained missing funds or valuables
■ Forged signatures or financial transactions
■ Assets being transferred or sold
■ Individual is taken to bank to make account withdrawals

Attention. If you need free help interpreting this document, call the above number.

651-431-2600
Attention. Si vous avez besoin d’une aide gratuite pour interpréter le présent document, veuillez appeler au numéro ci-dessus.

For accessible formats of this publication or assistance with additional equal access to human services, write to dhs.info@state.mn.us, call 651-431-2600, or use your preferred relay service. ADA1 (9-15)