

VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE AND NEGLECT

This policy establishes uniform reporting requirements and procedures for employees regarding suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or maltreatment of vulnerable adults.

Michigan law requires that certain persons report any case of suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or maltreatment of persons eighteen (18) years or older who are vulnerable and unable to take the necessary steps to correct their situation.

The Michigan Adult Protective Services law requires the reporting of physical, mental or sexual abuse, maltreatment, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults.

Mandated reporters include school administrators, school counselors, teachers, social workers, nurses, and psychologists. Mandated reporters are always required to report suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or maltreatment of vulnerable adults to the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS).

The law requires mandated reporters to make an immediate verbal report to DHS upon suspecting abuse, neglect, exploitation or maltreatment of vulnerable adults. A written report may be completed at the discretion of the reporting person.

Mandated reporters must also notify their immediate supervisor of the report. Reporting the suspected allegations of abuse and neglect of a vulnerable adult to a supervisor does not fulfill the requirements to report directly to DHS.

All other staff not considered mandatory reporters, who suspect physical, mental or sexual abuse, maltreatment, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults shall immediately report such case to his/her supervisor who shall, in turn, immediately notify the DHS.

Information on reporting requirements along with reporting form and contact information for DHS can be found on the District's webpage.

The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines to ensure proper compliance with the intent of this policy.

M.C.L. 400.11 et seq., M.C.L. 750.145m et seq.