

Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD)

Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) is an organization that is part of the Alberta government. PDD provides funding that supports adults with developmental disabilities to live, work and participate in their communities as valued citizens.

One of PDD's core values is treating people with integrity, dignity and respect. In keeping with this value, preventing abuse and addressing concerns in this area is part of our role. PDD has developed *the Abuse Prevention and Response Protocol* to educate and ensure accountability regarding abuse.

The Abuse Prevention and Response Protocol

The Abuse Prevention and Response Protocol is a PDD Provincial policy that addresses both the prevention of abuse and the response to any form of mistreatment toward an individual supported by PDD.

The Protocol, which applies to all PDD funded situations, outlines the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders including service provider organizations, private hire arrangements and PDD.

For information about how to obtain a copy of the Protocol see the back of this brochure.

Focus on Prevention

The best way to prevent abuse for all citizens is to be meaningfully included in regular community life, as neighbours, coworkers, volunteers and friends.

The risk of abuse for all citizens is reduced when they belong and are accepted as valued members of society.

When communities value all of its citizens, including individuals with developmental disabilities, the community recognizes people for their gifts, capabilities and contributions. This brings richness to a community.

When individuals become active participants in the community rather than onlookers, they become part of the fabric of the community with people looking out for one another.

Responding to Concerns

PDD is committed to responding to all concerns of mistreatment towards adults with developmental disabilities. The Protocol identifies that service provider organizations, private hire arrangements and PDD all share the ethical responsibility to take reasonable action to reduce the risk of any type of mistreatment. This includes addressing concerns related to staff, roommate conflicts and community issues.

In addition to having this ethical responsibility, PDD has the authority to take action when an allegation of abuse involves PDD funded staffing supports.

Once the concern is reported to the service provider organization, the private hire arrangement or PDD, a decision is made on how it will be addressed and if a review is necessary. Who takes the lead in the review is decided in consultation with PDD and is dependent on the unique circumstances of each situation.

After the review is completed, recommendations are made and an action plan is developed, which is monitored by PDD to ensure that appropriate action is taken.

There are two other parties that at times may also become involved in addressing allegations of abuse:

The Police - become involved when the allegation is potentially criminal, the same as for any other citizen.

Protection for Persons in Care (PPC) - applies to some PDD funded situations that are defined as care facilities under the PPC Act.

What is your Role?

One of the key ways you can help to prevent abuse is to support the participation of an individual with a developmental disability to be a neighbour, co-worker, volunteer, friend, etc.

If you are concerned that an adult with a developmental disability has been mistreated, you should contact the service provider organization, the family/other who hires privately, your regional PDD Community Board, or the PPC Act reporting line.

If you are a person with a developmental disability and you have been abused, tell someone you trust ... now. This could mean reporting it at home, work, to the PDD Community Board or the PPC Act abuse reporting line.

Want to Learn More?

PDD's *Abuse Prevention and Response Protocol* can be obtained from:

- PDD Community Board offices
- PDD Provincial Board office
- PDD Provincial Board website at

http://www.pdd.org/Provincial/abuse_protocol.htm

Protection for Persons in Care information can be obtained from:

- PPC office reporting line at (1-888-357-9339) or the website at

http://www.cd.gov.ab.ca/helping_albertans_in_care

For more information on PDD Provincial Board's policies and direction contact us at:

PDD Alberta Provincial Board

4th Floor, 10011 - 109 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 3S8
Phone: (780) 427-1177

To discuss regional practices or to report allegations contact your regional Community Board.

Northwest Alberta Community Board

Bag 900-27 9603 - 90 Ave
Peace River, AB T8S 1T4
Phone: (780) 624-6225

Northeast Alberta Community Board

242, 5025 - 49 Ave
St. Paul, AB T0A 3A4
Phone: (780) 645-6417

Edmonton Community Board

10258-108 St
Edmonton, AB T5J 4Z7
Phone: (780) 427-2817

Central Alberta Community Board

501, 5010 - 43 St
Red Deer, AB T4N 6H2
Phone: (403) 340-7591

Calgary Region Community Board

400, 1520 - 4 St SW
Calgary, AB T2R 1H5
Phone: (403) 297-5011

South Alberta Community Board

709, 400 - 4 Ave S
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4E1
Phone: (403) 381-5777

Long distance calls to any government office can be made toll free by calling the Alberta Government RITE operator at 310-0000.



Persons with
Developmental
Disabilities
Alberta Provincial Board

Preventing and Responding to Abuse...

"Everyone Has a Role"

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