

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

HISTORY

While Ontario's early history of developmental services focused exclusively on a medical model in which people with a developmental disability were cared for in large institution settings, by the late 1960's the concept of 'normalizing' the lives of people who have a developmental disability and the move to integration into the general community were gaining worldwide favour.

The introduction of the APSW program followed soon after the enactment of the new *Developmental Services Act* in 1974 which transferred responsibility for services for people with a developmental disability from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The APSW program is funded under the authority of the *Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008* (SIPDDA). SIPDDA gives the Ministry of Community and Social Services the authority to fund specified services and supports or assistance for or on behalf of adults with a development disability. APSW's are identified as a Ministry-funded professional and specialised service.

The Developmental Services Act was repealed and its regulation revoked on July 1, 2011.

CLIENT ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for the adult (age 18 years and over) developmental services and supports, including the APSW program, is the first determination to be made. Confirmation of eligibility is a legislated function of **DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES ONTARIO**, (called entities in the legislation). Under the authority of the (SIPDDA), all individuals wishing to apply for services and supports for the first time must contact their local Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) organization to have eligibility confirmed and to complete the Application Package for adult developmental services.

The DSO will refer eligible individuals to local APSW agencies, following the prioritization process and within available resources.

VOLUNTARY RELATIONSHIP

The relationship between the Adult Protective Service Worker and the person who has a developmental disability is voluntary which means that an unwilling or disinterested individual is not compelled to accept the services of the APSW program. The APSW cannot compel an individual to accept advice from the Adult Protective Service Worker.

The Adult Protective Service Worker is expected to provide services, within their mandate, to people who have a developmental disability who seek their help. The Adult Protective Service Worker does not have guardianship or legislated custodial authority for the individuals they support and cannot assume legal responsibility for the adult or supervise their children. The Adult Protective Service Worker does not have power of attorney capacity for the individuals they support and does not make personal care or financial/property decisions on their behalf.

APSW's do not have a mandate to provide care or to compel compliance to treatment or to other recommended support services. While the APSW can assist people in making healthy and safe decisions, ultimately the final decision belongs to the adult who has a developmental disability and who is capable of making those decisions.

ADVOCACY

In the role of advocate, the APSW works with community-based services and agencies to ensure, within the scope of the APSW's mandate and authority, that the rights of the adult who has a developmental disability are acknowledged and respected, and inform the adult who has a developmental disability of their rights.

The APSW conducts regular face-to-face meetings with adults who have a developmental disability to provide:

- **Advocacy** on their behalf to help them access and maintain generic community supports, apply for government-funded services, and supports and to help them live safely and securely in the community
- Help to the individual **identifying their strengths and needs and providing information and referrals** at the direction of the adult who has a developmental disability
- **Coordination and case management** of community resources, service plans, mediation, and liaison with other service providers
- Support with **problem-solving**, life skills counselling (such as personal budgeting, use of transportation), general education and awareness-building on abuse prevention, help resolving landlord/tenant issues, guidance and group facilitation

MEDICAL ISSUES

Situations that require direct observation of an individual after medical treatment or care, assistance with medical treatment, enforcement of treatment guidelines or orders, or other more intrusive or intensive measures fall beyond the scope of what the Adult Protective Service Worker is mandated to provide.

APSW SERVICES IN KINGSTON

K3C COUNSELLING (Kingston Community Counseling Centres)

417 Bagot St.

Kingston, Ontario, K7K 3C1

Telephone: 613-549-7850

Website: www.k3c.org

ONGWANADA APSW (Napanee)

113Richmond Blvd, Unit 10

Box 112

Napanee, Ontario, K7R 3M3

Telephone: 613-354-9904

Fax: 613-354-5045

Adult Protective Service Association of Ontario (APS AO)

Website: <http://apsao.org>

OTHER AGENCIES

NOTE: Services to children (under 18 years of age) can go directly to these agencies.

COMMUNITY LIVING KINGSTON

(Main Office)

1412 Princess Street

Kingston, Ontario, K7M 3E5

Telephone: 613-546-6613

Website: www.communitylivingkingston.org

(Gananoque Office)

26 Mill Street

Gananoque, Ontario, K7G 3A6

Telephone: 613-382-7702

ONGWANADA HOSPITAL

191 Portsmouth Avenue

Kingston, Ontario, K7M 8A6

Telephone: 613-548-4417

Website: www.ongwanada.com

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE

61 King Street East

Brockville, Ontario, K6V 6K8

Telephone: 613-345-1290

1-866-544-5614 (toll free)

Website: www.developmentalservices.com

COMMUNITY LIVING BELLEVILLE AND AREA

91 Millennium Parkway

Belleville, Ontario, Canada, K8N 4Z5

Telephone: 613-969.7407

Website: www.communitylivingbelleville.org

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Let's make healthy change happen