Vulnerable Adult Act (VAA) Redesign Community Conversations Kick-Off Webinar

September 26, 2019 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM
The Department of Human Services (DHS) has contracted with the state’s Management Analysis and Development (MAD) Division to engage stakeholders in the Vulnerable Adult Act (VAA) Redesign process. MAD offers neutral, third-party consultation services. You can find out more about [MAD at our website](https://mn.gov/mmb/mad/).
Webinar Tips

You can turn-off your webcam & also get call-in info for audio by phone: (If you’re calling in, please **mute your phone**)

If you have questions or need help with the webinar platform, please use the chat feature:

Send questions to presenters by chatting directly with “**Renda Rappa (host)**”
Today’s Webinar Purpose: Provide background information and materials to support community conversations related to Minnesota’s adult protective services system.

Community Conversations Purpose: Gather input on what values and general outcomes community members want to see at the core of a redesigned system for protecting and supporting vulnerable adults. This is the next step in a larger stakeholder engagement process.
First, some background...
MN §626.557 Vulnerable Adult Act (VAA) establishes state policy for vulnerable adults.

1980

1995

2013

MN §626.5572 Provides definitions of terms in VAA

State centralized Common Entry Point authorized
The decision to explore redesigning the VAA reflects the changing demographics in our state as well as recognition of the challenges within the current statute.
Minnesota Adult Abuse Reporting Center (MAARC) system provides excellent data source for better understanding APS in Minnesota.

Reports page: mn.gov/dhs/adult-protection-reports

Public Web Page: mn.gov/dhs/adult-protection

Let’s take a look...
Statewide Allegations Data 2018

Data Source: DHS Data Warehouse

Total: 78,024
APS: 42,808
MDH: 26,847
DHS Licensing: 9,902
Law Enforcement & Emergency Social Service Notifications 2018

Data Source: DHS Data Warehouse. Extraction date 4/2/19.
Adult Protective Services (APS) is a social services program provided by state and local governments serving older adults and adults with disabilities who need assistance because of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation (adult maltreatment). In all states, APS is charged with receiving and responding to reports of adult maltreatment and working closely with clients and a wide variety of allied professionals to maximize client safety and independence.
The APS system in Minnesota is complex, with DHS, MDH, and county-based Adult Protective Services (APS) each responsible for different pieces.

There have been recent changes to parts of the system, specifically related to some licensed care facilities. However, a broader review of the system has not been undertaken.

In this process, we’re focusing especially on county-based APS, which receives the majority of reports of alleged maltreatment of vulnerable adults.
APS Reports Data 2018 by Race

Data Source: DHS Data Warehouse. Extraction date 5/30/19.
### Allegations Referred to APS 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>42,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caregiver Neglect</td>
<td>7,017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self Neglect</td>
<td>13,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuse</td>
<td>12,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Exploitation</td>
<td>10,450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data Source: DHS Data Warehouse*
APS Allegation Acceptance & Determination Data 2018

Data Source: DHS Data Warehouse. Extraction date 4/10/19.
Adult Protective Services/Interventions Data 2018

4108 total Interventions

Data Source: DHS Data Warehouse

- Caregiver Support: 224
- Guardian or Conservator Appointment: 331
- Case Mgmt: 281
- Move or Relocation: 374
- Home or Community Based Services: 259
- Support System for VA Engaged: 231
- Refused: 76
Please use the chat box now to submit questions to “RENSDA RAPP (host).”
Questions?

You can continue to use the chat box to submit questions to “RENSDA RAPPA (host).”

We are saving time to answer more questions at the end.

We will also follow-up after this webinar with answers to any questions we don’t have time for during this hour.
Vulnerable Adult Act Redesign Process...
The VAA Redesign project reflects APS challenges within the statute to align with values identified by the community related to:

- Balance
- Prevention
- Clarity
- Respect
- Support
- Accountability
Vulnerable Adult Act (VAA) Redesign - Goal

We need to continue gathering feedback regarding the VAA and potential ways to align a redesigned VAA with shared community goals and values.
Community groups read and discuss stories about adults interacting with the adult protective services system.
Community group representatives define the shared values and story outcomes they envision forming the backbone of a redesigned VAA.
Institutional stakeholders identify the process values and outcomes central to a redesigned VAA.
VAA Redesign: Stakeholder Engagement Process (slide 4 of 5)

Stakeholder groups generate solutions.
VAA Redesign: Stakeholder Engagement Process (slide 5 of 5)

Community and institutional stakeholders review and react to recommendations from Solution Groups process.
About our invitation to you...
Community Conversations

Community groups read and discuss stories about adults interacting with the adult protective services system.

We are asking for your help reaching people whose voices should be central to the redesign process.

We believe you are best positioned to meet people where they are at, to ensure they can provide input in a safe place and with people they trust.

We’ve designed Community Conversations, where participants listen to and discuss a story, so that anyone can participate – regardless of their current knowledge of the complex adult protective services system.
1. **Meet**: Gather a small group of people whose voices should be central to helping decide how Adult Protective Services could be improved.

2. **Read a story and discuss**: Choose one or more of the stories provided for the group to read and discuss. Read the story and answer the questions together.

3. **Share**: Capture the group’s thoughts and submit them through the online form.
Community Conversations: Resources (slide 1 of 5)

Community Conversations guide and stories:

Online input submission form:
https://tinyurl.com/VAA-OurThoughts
Facilitator’s Guide:

- Before the conversation
- Introduction
- Reading together
- Discussion
- Closing
Community Conversations: Resources (slide 3 of 5)

“Our Thoughts” Note Sheet:

Print and take notes by hand, then type into the online form later.

Or open and type directly into the online form while the group talks.
Values Examples:

The questions ask participants to identify the values that would be important to characters in the story.

Printing, or having this sheet available, may be helpful to generate ideas.
The Stories:

Brief description of the scenario, followed by 2 questions.

Brief description of how APS responds in the example, followed by 1 question.

Note: The story is not about a real person. When the story talk about a report being made, the report would be made to the state's central system for reporting suspected mistreatment of a vulnerable adult, the Minnesota Adult Abuse Reporting Center (MAARC) at 1-800-852-6767. Each report that comes to MAARC is referred to the agency responsible for responding and screened. The report may also go to law enforcement and/or emergency protective services. In the story, Adult Protective Services (APS) is the county where the subject lived would be responsible. If the report is screened for investigation and services. The description of how Adult Protective Services responds in this example is based on current Minnesota statute (Vulnerable Adult Act: Minnesota Statutes 624.7-101).
Community Conversations

There are seven stories. We ask that you organize conversations about at least **three** of them.

The stories you select can be discussed with the same or different groups of people. They can be discussed in one sitting, or at different times.

Please submit input by midnight on *November 15*. 
Community Stakeholders Summit

Please join us on **November 22** for the Community Stakeholders Summit. You’ll get to review and help us synthesize all of the input submitted from Community Conversations.

You’re invited to bring one of the community members that participated in a Community Conversation to participate in the Summit with you.

**More information and an RSVP link will be posted in October on the VAA Redesign website.**
Please use the chat box now to submit questions to “REnda Rappa (host).”
We will follow-up after this webinar with answers to any questions we didn’t get to.

If you have questions after the webinar:

• About the **VAA redesign process**, please contact: [VAARedesign.dhs@state.mn.us](mailto:VAARedesign.dhs@state.mn.us)

• About the **Community Conversations** materials or submitting input, please contact: [Stacy.Sjogren@state.mn.us](mailto:Stacy.Sjogren@state.mn.us)
Resources

**VAA Redesign website** - This is where the resources for Community Conversations are currently posted and updates about the redesign process will be put in the future: https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/adult-protection/vaa-redesign.jsp

**The DHS Adult Protection website:**

**The DHS Vulnerable Adult Protection Dashboard:**

**The Vulnerable Adult Act (Minnesota Statues 626.557):**
https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/626.557
Thank you!