

Policy: Fraud and Abuse Prevention and Detection Policy	
Effective Date: 7.1.2014	Last Revised Date: 9.3.2014
Prepared By: Shannon Wagner, CFO	Page: 1/2

Purpose

The policy is established to provide all directors, officers, administrative staff, and direct support workers of Life Patterns, Inc. (Life Patterns) with detailed information regarding the prevention and detection of fraud.

Scope:

This policy applies to all directors, officers, administrative staff, and direct support workers of Life Patterns and relates to the organizations approach to prevent and detect fraud and misconduct.

Policy

It is the responsibility of every director, officer, administrative staff, and direct support worker to immediately report SUSPECTED misconduct or dishonesty.

Distribution

Written notification shall be made to Board members, officers, administrative staff, and direct support workers of Life Patterns of the posting of this policy to the Life Patterns website.

Medicaid Fraud

Medicaid Fraud is a crime and if it is suspected, it must be reported to the Attorney General's office. The Attorney General's office will complete an investigation and if Medicaid fraud is proven, Medicaid eligibility will be lost. Other consequences can include arrest and prosecution, fines and jail time, civil damages and monetary penalties, exclusions from working in any facility receiving federal health care funds, and loss of certification.

Examples of Medicaid fraud:

- Submitting or calling in time when not working
- Submitting or calling in time using someone else's name or ID number
- Doing tasks not authorized or not doing tasks required
- Knowingly submitting false information, such as employment documents

Medicaid fraud or abuse should be reported to:

Jon Gerdel, Executive Director, Life Patterns, Inc. - 785.273.7189

The Attorney General's office - 866.551.6328

Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation

Any vulnerable adult or child is protected from any type of abuse, neglect, or exploitation by the Kansas Department for Children and Families. Staff who work for anyone considered vulnerable who are suspected of abuse, neglect, or exploitation can be investigated by the Kansas Department for Children and Families. The names of confirmed perpetrators of abuse, neglect, and exploitation are entered on a central registry for either adults or children that is available to all community service providers, mental health centers, independent living centers, and home health agencies that

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do background checks for employment purposes. If a criminal act has occurred, the Kansas Department for Children and Families is required to immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Kansas Department for Children and Families Definitions:

- **Vulnerable adults** are persons 18 years of age or older who are unable to protect their own interests and who are harmed or threatened with harm through action or inaction by themselves or others. Typically this includes individuals who are elderly, have a physically disability, mentally illness, or developmental disability.
- **Abuse:** Any act or failure to act performed intentionally or recklessly that causes or is likely to cause harm including: infliction of physical or mental injury; sexual abuse; unreasonable use of physical or chemical restraint, isolation or medication; threat or menacing conduct; fiduciary abuse; and omission or deprivation by a caretaker or other person of goods or services which are necessary to avoid physical or mental harm or illness.
- **Neglect:** Failure or omission by one's self, caretaker, or other person to provide goods or services, which are reasonably necessary to ensure safety and well-being and to avoid physical or mental harm or illness
- **Exploitation:** Misappropriation of an adult's property or intentionally taking unfair advantage of an adult's physical or financial resources.
- **Fiduciary Abuse:** A situation in which a person who is a caretaker of, or who stands in a position of trust to an adult, takes, secretes, or appropriates their money or property for any use of purpose not in the due and lawful execution of an adult's trust.

If abuse, neglect, or exploitation is suspected it should be reported to:

Jon Gerdel, Executive Director, Life Patterns, Inc. – 785.273.7189

Kansas Department for Children and Families – 800.922.5330

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to Jon Gerdel.