#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Aging Care Connections Announces Enhanced Adult Protective Services for Proviso Township Residents

# Local organization strengthens commitment to protecting vulnerable adults through comprehensive investigation and support services

Aging Care Connections is proud to announce that it now serves as the designated Adult Protective Services (APS) resource for residents of Proviso Township, Illinois. This expanded role reinforces the organization's commitment to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of vulnerable adults throughout the community.

#### **Comprehensive Protection for Vulnerable Adults**

The APS program investigates reports of abuse, neglect, exploitation and self-neglect of adults aged 60 or older and adults aged 18-59 with disabilities living in the community. Types of abuse investigated include physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, confinement, passive neglect, willful deprivation, financial exploitation, abandonment, and self-neglect.

"Adult Protective Services represents a critical safety net for our most vulnerable community members," said Aging Care Connections Executive Director Desiree M. Scully, MA, "We are honored to expand our services to better protect older adults and individuals with disabilities in Proviso Township who may be experiencing abuse, neglect, or exploitation."

### **Professional, Client-Centered Approach**

Local APS caseworkers who are trained and certified will assess allegations and coordinate client service referrals to mitigate the risk of the effects of the abuse/neglect/financial exploitation. Client health, welfare, and safety are taken into consideration. The Adult Protective Service Program is a client-directed advocacy program.

The program serves adults in various living situations, including those residing in their own homes, unlicensed facilities, or licensed facilities (in cases of financial exploitation). APS

investigates allegations when the abuser is a friend, family member or caregiver, not a stranger.

### **Easy Access to Critical Services**

Residents can access Adult Protective Services through multiple channels:

- 24-Hour Statewide Hotline: 1-866-800-1409
- Local Direct Line: 708-354-1323 (Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM 4:30 PM)

For all cases that are not self-neglect, the client's alleged abuser must have a relationship and continued access to the client. The latest incident of abuse/neglect/financial exploitation must have occurred within the last twelve months OR the effects of the abuse/neglect/exploitation continue to affect the client.

#### **About Aging Care Connections**

Aging Care Connections is a leader in providing client-centered care that focuses on improving the quality of life for older adults. The organization offers the most comprehensive information on programs and services in the community, helping older adults find solutions to their emotional, physical, mental, financial, and healthy living needs.

In addition to Adult Protective Services, Aging Care Connections provides a wide range of services including home-delivered meals, congregate dining, home repair assistance, housing assistance, and care coordination services.

Aging Care Connections does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in compliance with appropriate state and federal statutes.

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