Adult Protective Services
COVID-19 Updates
Adult Protective Services

• APS investigates allegations of abuse, exploitation, and neglect, including self neglect, under the authority of A.R.S. § 46-454

• APS investigates across the entire state but has no jurisdiction on tribal land

• Unlike CPS, APS does not have the authority to remove adults from their homes or take custody
COVID-19 Impacts

• General public not having access to loved ones has potentially impacted reporting and investigations
• Restricted access to facilities and hospitals and understanding of APS authority
• Initial difficulty in getting access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for APS investigators
• Managing staffing amidst COVID-19
COVID-19 Impacts
Continued

• Despite restricted access, reporting has continued at an all time high
APS Response

- Virtual investigation
  - Initial contact by phone followed by virtual interview whenever possible
- Technology deployment
  - APS received grant from the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission to help fund COVID-related expenditures, including the purchase of PPE for investigators and the purchase of tablets
APS Response Continued

• Website redesign to better inform the public about APS
  https://des.az.gov/services/basic-needs/adult-protective-services

• Virtual outreach and presentations to partners
  • Mandatory reporters

• Leveraging partnerships with food banks and Area Agencies on Aging
Questions?

• Please feel free to reach out with further questions to:
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