GANE App

An overview of the Georgia Abuse Neglect Exploitation (GANE) App

Forensic Special Initiatives Unit (FSIU)
Georgia Abuse Neglect Exploitation App

The GANE App was developed through a collaboration between the Georgia Department of Human Services Division of Aging Services, the Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association, and the GBI to provide law enforcement and other professionals a resource when responding to the abuse of vulnerable and at-risk adults.
Georgia Abuse Neglect Exploitation (GANE) App

- Law enforcement/Adult Protective Services frequently encounter situations where someone appears to have been abused, neglected, or exploited

- Where persons with diminished cognitive capacity appear to be wandering and/or lost

- When a vulnerable adult is deemed to be unsafe, e.g. removed from an unlicensed personal care home/caregiver is arrested
GANE App

• Options available to place them temporarily to ensure their safety are limited

• Situations often occur in the middle of the night

• Law enforcement/professionals need quick access to information, screening tools, and resources
Features of the GANE App

• Social service, regulatory and other agencies contact information to report suspected abuse

• Resource agencies contact information

• Georgia laws relating to abuse, neglect, and exploitation
Features of the GANE App (cont.)

• Screening for cognitive functioning

• Screening for determining abuse, neglect, and exploitation

• Screening for financial capacity*

• Emergency placement places using TERF (temporary emergency respite fund)*

*Restricted to law enforcement and Adult Protective Services
Download the GANE App

• Available for Android and iOS phones

• The GANE App is free to download and use

• An activation code is required to access the special features available only to Law Enforcement and Adult Protective Services employees
GANE App Home Page

Tap here and to enter the activation code ******
and the user role, either law enforcement or Adult Protective Services
The activation code is only for Law enforcement and Adult Protective Services
No activation code is required to use the public version of the GANE App

To obtain an activation code send an email to: david.blake@dhs.ga.gov or anna.thomas1@dhs.ga.gov
The Reporting Agency Tab menu contains a list of social service and regulatory agencies to report suspected abuse, neglect, and exploitation of an at-risk adult.

O.C.G.A. § 30-5-4 requires mandated reporting to both social services, regulatory agencies and law enforcement.
Reporting Agency Tab

Clicking on the "Reporting Agency" Tab will open the Reporting Agencies menu.
Mandated reporting – In the community

O.C.G.A. § 30-5-4 requires mandated reporting to both social services/regulatory agencies and law enforcement.

To report suspect abuse in a home/community setting the agencies to contact would be Adult Protective Services and law enforcement.
Mandated reporting – In a facility

O.C.G.A. § 30-5-4 requires mandated reporting to both social services/regulatory agencies and law enforcement.

To report suspect abuse in a facility setting (personal care home, nursing home, etc.) the agencies to contact would be Healthcare Facility Regulation and law enforcement.
The Resource Agency Tab menu contains a list of different resource agencies and contact information that may be useful to the vulnerable/at-risk adult. 

Here are the agencies listed:

- GeorgiaCares
- GAMap2Care
- Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
- AARP
- Alzheimer’s Association
- Elderly Legal Assistance Program (ELAP)
- GA Department of Veteran Affairs
- GA Legal Hotline
- Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL)
Resource Agency Tab

Clicking on the “Resource Agency” Tab will open the Resources Agencies menu
Tapping on the agency name opens a new page that describes the agency, provides an overview of services, and contact information.
Contact Tab

Tapping on the “Contact” Tab will place a call to Adult Protect Services.
Criminal Statutes and Definitions Tab

The Criminal Statutes and Definitions tab provides a list of crimes specifically related to at-risk adults and identifies crimes with enhanced penalties.
Criminal Statutes and Definitions Tab (cont.)

Tapping on specific laws will open a copy of that O.C.G.A. § code section
Placement Tab

Tapping on the Placement Tab provides the criteria for using the TERF* program and allows the user to call TERF directly from the app.

*TERF is only available to Law Enforcement, Adult Protective Services, and Healthcare Facility Regulation Division.
Temporary Emergency Respite Funds (TERF)

• Is a resource only for law enforcement, social services and regulatory agencies to assist in the emergency placement, for up to seven (7) consecutive days, of abused, neglected and exploited at-risk adults whose caregivers have been removed because of illness, arrest, or other reasons.

• TERF is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
TERF

• TERF is not intended to resolve issues of chronic homelessness and/or issues of cognitive impairment due to use of alcohol or narcotics

• Mental health crises should be addressed through the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
TERF requirements

• At-risk adults lacking the ability to independently provide for their own basic necessities of life due to disease, disability or cognitive impairment

• Without family or friends to become involved in the care and decision making of the adult; and at imminent risk of harm/threat to health and safety if placement is not provided
Emergency medical & psychiatric

• Any adult who needs emergency medical or psychiatric treatment should not be processed for TERF placement, calling emergency responders or transporting to the Emergency Room is appropriate in that circumstance.

• “Total care” adults will not qualify for personal care home placement.
Tapping on this tab allows for the initiation of a Safe Return Program directly through the GANE App.
Screenings Tab

Each Tab under the Screening Tab opens to screening forms

The GANE App processes the answers and makes a determination as to whether or not the case should be referred to the appropriate state agency.
Cognitive Capacity

Please recite the following script, and upon asking questions, please check the questions the victim answers incorrectly.

Hello. My name is Officer --SAY YOUR NAME--. Can you say my name? It is very important that you remember my name. Now I am going to ask you a few questions.

Check if INCORRECTLY answered

- Can you tell me what time of day it is?
- Can you tell me where we are?
- What was my name?

Neglect Screening

Neglect is the absence or omission of essential services to the degree that it harms or threatens with harm the physical or emotional health of a vulnerable adult.

Check if answer is YES

- Does the adult have poor personal hygiene as evidenced by a noticeable odor, long and dirty fingernails, lice, or other parasites, and etc.?
- Have signs and symptoms of disease or injury been ignored or left untreated?
- Does the adult lack needed medication or medical

Abuse Screening

Abuse means willful infliction of physical pain, physical injury, sexual abuse, mental anguish, unreasonable confinement, or the willful deprivation of essential services to a vulnerable adult.

Check if answer is YES

- Has anyone hit you?
- Have you been given medicine that made you tired or sleepy?
- Has someone locked you up, or confined you against your will?
- Has someone tried to manipulate, control, or scare you?
The Financial Capacity Module will allow law enforcement /APS to identify persons at risk for diminished financial capacity (DFC) and/or financial exploitation (FE). Identified persons will then be referred for an expanded DFC/FE assessment using the UAB Brief Financial Capacity Screening (BFCS) tools.
Financial Capacity Module

A series of questions are asked of the client.

The client is allowed up to 20 seconds to respond.

The user enters either “Incorrect” or “Correct.”
Financial Capacity Module (cont.)

After the series of questions are completed the Financial Capacity Module evaluates whether or not a referral for an expanded DFC/FE assessment recommended is needed
GANE App - Contact information

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