

## The Gatekeeper Program Works ...

Without it, many of our vulnerable elderly would never get the attention or assistance they need.

- If you observe any combination of the signals listed, please call the Area Agency On Aging.
- If you believe the individual in need is unable or unwilling to call, please make the phone call yourself. You can request to remain anonymous.
- If you feel an elderly person needs help, more than likely he or she does.



## When making a referral to the AREA AGENCY ON AGING, please include the following information:

- Name of the elderly person
- Address
- Phone number (if possible)
- Reason you feel the person needs help
- Age, if known

### Area Agencies On Aging

Weiser, Payette, Nampa, Boise, Mountain Home (Southwest Idaho)

- **Sage Community Resources**

125 E. 50th  
Garden City, ID 83714  
322-7033 or 1-800-859-0321

Twin Falls / Magic Valley Areas (South Central Idaho)

- **College of Southern Idaho**

P.O. Box 1238  
Twin Falls, ID 83303  
736-2122 or 1-800-574-8656

Pocatello Areas (Southeastern Idaho)

- **Southeast Idaho Council of Governments**

214 E. Center  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
233-4032 (ext. 16) or 1-800-526-8129

Idaho Falls Area (Eastern Idaho)

- **Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership**

357 Constitution Way  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402  
522-5391 (ext. 1014) or 1-800-632-4813



*Community support for the elderly*

Assistance for the  
Senior Citizens in your life.  
Chances are you know someone  
who could benefit.

# HOW THE GATEKEEPER PROGRAM WORKS

A senior citizen living alone, perhaps without all the vim and vigor of earlier years but certainly not without the pride of being independent, may need help.

In their advancing years, seniors sometimes need a watchful eye and a helping hand.

That's why Intermountain Gas supports the Gatekeeper Program.

Please be aware of seniors and their condition. If you see changes in their appearance, physical or mental behavior, or living conditions, please call the Agency on Aging or a local Senior Center and help will be on the way.

Gatekeeper is a program designed to bridge the gap between elderly in need and social service agencies.

**A Gatekeeper referral to the Area Agency on Aging can provide assistance with the following:**

- Legal Services
- Nutrition
- Home Repair
- Chore Services
- Counseling
- Case Management
- Health Care
- Housing
- Employment
- Transportation
- Social Security
- Food Stamps

## **Situations / Signals Suggesting a Call to the Area Agency on Aging is Necessary**

### ***Personal appearance***

- Changes in grooming habits

### ***Condition of home***

- Exterior / interior in poor repair
- Old newspapers lying around, calendar on wrong month or year
- Little or no food
- Strong odors
- Many pets
- Many empty alcohol containers

### ***Little or no understanding of what is being said or done***

- Confused
- Disoriented
- Inappropriate responses
- Forgetful
- Repetitiveness while talking

### ***Substance abuse***

- Alcohol
- Other drugs



### ***Emotional health / depression***

- Dejected – states, “I don't care, no use going on”
- Complains of not eating or sleeping – early morning awakening
- Appears anxious, fidgety
- Anger and hostility directed at self, you or another
- Recent loss through death of relative/ friend
- Death of pet(s)
- Suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of older person

### ***Physical losses***

- Loss of hearing, sight
- Inability to move easily
- Chronic physical illness
- Many medicine bottles

### ***Economic and social problems***

- Low income – poor
- Confusion about money
- Unable to go outside to grocery or drug store
- Lack of social relationships
- No mention of family or friends
- May state, “No one cares”