

# When Adult Children Come Home to Stay

www.DRUGENDANGEREDCHILD.org

Addiction, unemployment, divorce, and past incarceration are some of the reasons adult children may come to live with adult parents. If drug use has not previously been a problem, the stress of these life situations may bring risk of addiction and involvement in activities that can place elder adults at risk of victimization. Availability of medications, access to financial information and possible access to funds, creates an opportunity for those in transition, especially those struggling with addiction, to victimize older adults financially. Addiction increases the risk of physical abuse and neglect by the family member or associates of the adult child.

## Here are some tips for protection:

- ✓ Create and maintain open lines of communication with probation officers.
- ✓ Clearly state expectations including who will be welcomed into the home and when; this can keep you safe from drug users who may come to visit.
- ✓ Participate in your adult child's recovery and provide emotional support and healthy boundaries to avoid enabling behaviors that can be harmful.
- ✓ Do not allow drug use, drugs or paraphernalia in your home. Doing so places you at legal risk as well.
- ✓ Do not provide access to blank checks, credit cards, or large amounts of cash.
- ✓ Monitor activities in and around the property and note unusual or changed behavior.
- ✓ Become involved in Al-anon or other support groups for family members of addicts and alcoholics.

[www.drugendangeredchild.org](http://www.drugendangeredchild.org)

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