



Elder Abuse: What is it and What Can I Do?

Elder Abuse vs. Dependent Adult Abuse

- **Elder Abuse – Older Americans’ Act**
 - Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation of an individual age 60 or older
- **Dependent Adult Abuse (DAA) – Iowa Code**
 - Dependent Adult (Age 18 or older)
 - Caretaker
 - Allegation of Abuse recognized by 235B

3 Criteria Needed For DHS to Accept a Referral

- Dependent Adult
- Caretaker
- Allegation of Abuse as recognized by Iowa Code 235B

Adult Abuse 235B

Definitions

Dependent Adult

A person eighteen or older who is unable to protect the person's own interests **OR** unable to adequately perform **OR** obtain services necessary to meet essential human needs, as a result of a **physical OR mental** condition which requires assistance from another. 235B.2(4)

Adult Abuse 235B Definitions

Caretaker

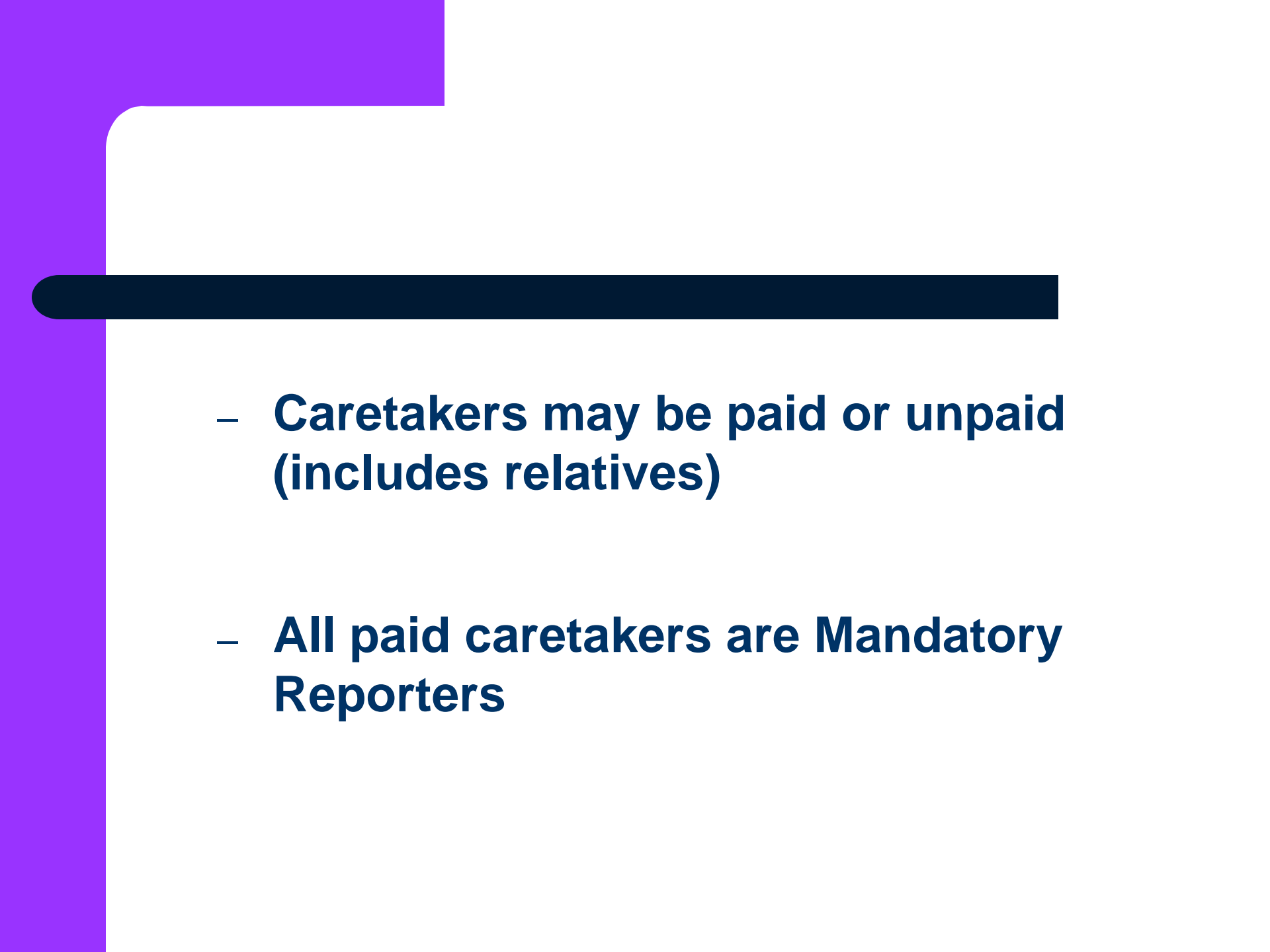
A related or non-related person who has the responsibility for the protection, care, or custody of a dependent adult as a result of assuming the responsibility voluntarily, by contract, through employment, or by order of the court. 235B.2(1)



- **Caretaker's Include:**

- Guardians
- Conservators
- Powers of Attorney
- Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) Providers

- **A Dependent Adult may have more than one caretaker**

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- **Caretakers may be paid or unpaid (includes relatives)**
 - **All paid caretakers are Mandatory Reporters**

Types Of Abuse

- **Physical Abuse**
- **Sexual Abuse**
- **Sexual Exploitation**
- **Financial Exploitation**
- **Denial of Critical Care**
- **Denial of Critical Care (self)**



**Mike Hensch, Johnson
County Medical Examiner**

HOW CAN I HELP???

REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE TO...

in the community (DHS)

Call 1-800-362-2178

or

in a facility (DIA)

Call 1-877-686-0027

How Can I Help?

- Call IDA for more information on elder abuse
1-800-532-3213
- Call law enforcement - abuse is a crime
- Speak with family, friends, and legislators
- Encourage your communities, faith organizations, legions, etc. to be alert

Contact Information

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