

Project Lifesaver

Being a personal caregiver for someone is a difficult task. The responsibility is enormous and can be draining. The situation can be dramatically intensified when the person that is being cared for begins to wander away. The caregiver is thrust into a situation where they cannot let their guard down for a minute.

The tendency to wander is prevalent among people that are suffering from Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. People with Down Syndrome, Autism, Prader-Willi or traumatic brain injury also exhibit this tendency. Reasoning, judgment, the ability to communicate, and other behaviors are all affected by these conditions.

It is estimated that 59% of people with Alzheimer's disease will wander and become lost. Many victims will wander repeatedly. The dangers to the wanderer are numerous. If an elderly Alzheimer's patient is left outside for more than 24 hours, their chance of survival drops to 50% due to the risk of exposure.

A lost person with Alzheimer's or a related disease or injury represents a critical emergency.

The wanderer's inability or unwillingness to communicate has frustrated caregivers and searchers alike. Traditional search methods rely heavily on the ability of the lost person to respond to searchers when they call. When this ability doesn't exist or the person elects not to respond, search efforts are time consuming and can take a tragic turn.

Project Lifesaver is designed to provide a safety net for the most vulnerable citizens in our community. Each Project Lifesaver client is provided a one-ounce electronic bracelet that emits a unique radio signal 24 hours a day. When a client wanders, a call to 911 by the caregiver triggers a rapid response by a trained team within the Onondaga County Volunteer Search and Rescue Unit. Under the direction of the Sheriff's Office, a search is started to locate that client's unique radio signal as soon as possible.

Agencies using Project Lifesaver have reduced search time dramatically. Searches that lasted hours and utilized dozens of search and rescue personnel are now accomplished in under an hour by small specialized teams. Fatalities have been reduced by 90%. If you have a loved one or know of an acquaintance or caregiver that could benefit from involvement in Project Lifesaver, please contact your local Sheriff's Office. **Onondaga County Sheriff's Office**. 407 South State Street. Syracuse, **New York** 13202. (315) 435-3044



Fabius-Pompey Outreach

The mission of the Fabius– Pompey Outreach Program is to help families and individuals living in the Fabius– Pompey School District.

The current economic climate has caused an increased demand for our resources. The number of families in need of food has doubled and the cost of the food we buy has increased greatly.

Your tax deductible donation will help us to purchase fresh produce and meats at deeply discounted prices through the CNY Food Bank. Please help your neighbors by sending a check to F-P Outreach, P.O. Box 251, Pompey, NY 13138. For every dollar donated we can purchase two dollars worth of food.

Our Current Needs: Canned fruit, juice, meat, soup, tuna and vegetables. Cereal, Jam/Jelly, Pasta, Peanut butter, Macaroni and cheese, Spaghetti sauce. Also cleaning supplies: paper products, soap products and detergent. Any donations may be left at your local church, school or Post Office.

If you know of a family that would be in need of the services the Outreach supplies: Food, clothing, transportation or Holiday Baskets, please call 315-677-3590 and leave a message. All information will be kept confidential.