

“My six year old special needs son, Joey, participates in W.P.D Project lifesaver program. Project Lifesaver is an incredible tool that Westerville Police Department has in their repertoire to see to the needs of some of our ‘special’ citizens.

This service has put a tremendous amount of ease in my family’s heart knowing that if Joey would wander off, they have quick intervention to locate him. I am very thankful for Project Lifesaver and The Westerville Police Department.”

Michelle Raber

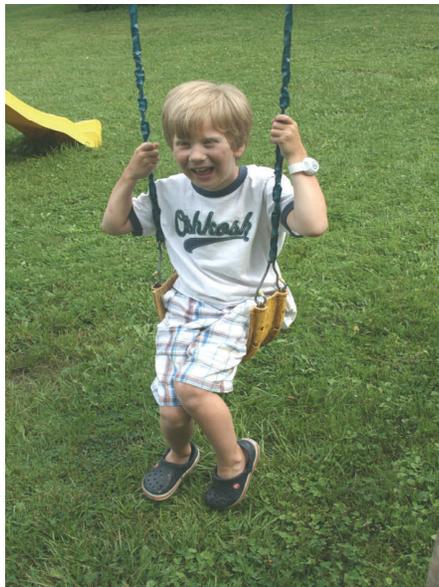


Photo of Joey



If you would like more information or know someone who needs to be enrolled in this program, please contact

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Visit website for more information

Westerville.org

Projectlifesaver.org

Westerville Division of Police

PROJECT LIFESAVER



Project Lifesaver is a rapid response program aiding victims and families suffering from Alzheimer’s disease and other related disorders by quickly locating and returning wandering adults and children to their families and caregivers.



PROJECT LIFESAVER

History and Mission

Project Lifesaver was established in April 1999 as an initiative of the 43rd Search and Rescue Company of the Chesapeake Sheriff's office in Virginia.

In collaboration with various civic groups and social service agencies the Westerville Division of Police adopted the Project Lifesaver program in June 2009.

Project Lifesaver's mission is to use advanced special rescue techniques, and a special responder program with state of the art technology in assisting those who care for victims of Alzheimer's and other Related Mental Dysfunction disorders (ARMD).

There are no boundaries...

no one is immune!

Project Lifesaver is about People and Partnerships

The focus is on communities where law enforcement, civic groups, local business and caregivers join in developing and strengthening all aspects of the program including rescues, education and especially fundraising so that families in financial need can have the protection, and peace of mind. Funding for Project Lifesaver is a result of private and corporate donations and grants. Since Project Lifesaver is comprised primarily of law enforcement and volunteers, donations are used directly for supplies, programs, rescues, and educational expenses.

Equipment

People who are a part of the program wear a personalized bracelet that emits a tracking signal. When caregivers notify the local Project Lifesaver agency that the person is missing, officers identify the signal from a specialized directional antenna and are able to track the wandering person. Officers use this equipment on foot, in cars, and also by air providing maximum cover and capability for search efforts for several miles. Search times have been reduced from hours even days to an average time of less than 30 minutes.



The bracelet is much more than an ID bracelet. It is a one ounce battery operated radio wrist/ankle transmitter emitting an automatic tracking signal every second, 24 hours a day. Each bracelet has a unique radio frequency allowing the search team to positively locate and identify the person that has wandered away from home or a care facility. The signal is tracked on the ground or in the air.

Training

Members of the Project Lifesaver team are specially trained, not only in the use of the electronic tracking equipment, but in the methods to communicate with a person who has these special needs. Locating the individual is only part of the mission. The person who is located will be disoriented, anxious, and untrusting. The Project Lifesaver team knows how to approach the person, gain their trust and put them at ease for the trip back home.



Nothing is more frightening than not being able to locate a loved one.