

MISSION

Project Lifesaver International (PLI) helps provide rapid response to save lives and reduce potential for serious injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, Autism, Down Syndrome, dementia and other related disorders.

PLI provides equipment, training, certification and support to law enforcement, public safety organizations and community groups which operate the Project Lifesaver program in their communities. PLI has over 1,100 participating agencies across the U.S., Canada, and Australia, and has performed over 2,100 searches in the last 10 years with a 100% success rate.

***“PROTECTING THE
WANDERING AND BRINGING
A PIECE OF MIND TO
FAMILIES, CAREGIVERS, AND
THE COMMUNITY”***



THE WELLS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

To sign up your loved one please contact:
The Wells County Sheriff's Department
1615 West Western Av.
Bluffton, IN 46714
Phone: 260-824-3426

A SERVICE OF THE
WELLS COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT

PROJECT LIFESAVER OF WELLS COUNTY



**A PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM TO LOCATE
MISSING PERSONS SUFFERING FROM
DEMENTIA-TYPE DISORDERS THAT
WANDER.**

Alzheimer's

Autism

Down Syndrome

PROJECT LIFESAVER-BRINGING LOVED ONES HOME

HISTORY

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.

Project Lifesaver's mission is to use state of the art technology in assisting those who care for persons who have dementia-type disorders that wander and become lost. These include the elderly and even the youngest in our community who are afflicted with Down syndrome, Autism or developmental disorders.

The National Alzheimer's Association reports that over 32,000 people wander away from homes and care facilities each year. Amid these dramatic increases, Project Lifesaver has become one of the leading organizations addressing the need to protect these people and bring comfort to their families and caregivers.



HOW IT WORKS

Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver in Wells County wear a small personal transmitter around the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized tracking signal. Caregivers are given a small tester and asked to daily check the transmitter to ensure that it is emitting a signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies the Wells County Sheriff's Department, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. Most who wander are found within a few miles from home. Recovery times for PLI clients average 30 minutes — 95% less time than standard operations.



Project Lifesaver teams are specially trained, not only in search and rescue and the use of the electronic tracking equipment, but also in the methods necessary to communicate with a person who has Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder. 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, and gain their trust so they are at ease for the trip home.

PARTNERING

Project Lifesaver is about people and partnerships. The focus is on communities where law enforcement, civic groups, and caregivers join together strengthening all aspects of the program including rescues, and education.

Wells County is proud to be partnering with our local Alzheimer's Association which is providing the funds to make Project Lifesaver free to clients regardless of their financial status. Project Lifesaver usually costs about \$300 per year, which is minimal compared the need for extensive search and rescue operations that are extremely costly in terms of human and financial resources.

This partnership and the program's effectiveness and reliability has earned the endorsement of the National Sheriff's Association, Commonwealth Autism Service, Alzheimer's Association of America and others.



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