



PROJECT LIFESAVER INTERNATIONAL

www.projectlifesaver.org

Project Lifesaver is intended to utilize state of the art technology in searching for persons with Autism, Alzheimer's or related disorders. These individuals may be prone to wander away from home or may easily become confused or lost. It will be the mission of the Allentown Police to utilize technology in locating these individuals and returning them to their place of residence in a quick and safe manner.

The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, autism, and other related cognitive conditions.

- Currently 5.2 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's with as many as 16 million cases expected by 2050.
- Wandering, the most life-threatening behavior associated with Alzheimer's, affects 59 percent of patients and 45 percent of those cases end tragically in death if the person is not located within 24 hours.
- Autism, which is the fastest growing developmental disability that now afflicts one in every 110 children, can also cause children to wander.

The task of searching for wandering or lost individuals with Alzheimer's, autism, Down syndrome, dementia or other cognitive conditions is a growing and serious responsibility. Without effective procedures and equipment, searches can involve multiple agencies, hundreds of officers, countless man-hours and thousands of dollars. More importantly, because time is of the essence, every minute lost increases the risk of a tragic outcome.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT LIFESAVER OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY, CONTACT:

Martha Lieberman (610) 966-8511 martha.lieberman@rcn.com

Allentown Police Project Lifesaver liaison:

Captain William Reinik (610) 437-7713 william.reinik@allentownpa.gov