



Charlotte County Sheriff's Office



Project Lifesaver

The Need for Project Lifesaver

It is estimated that more than 5 million people in the United States have Alzheimer's disease, with expectations of 7,632,000 to be diagnosed by 2025. About 8,000 people in Charlotte County are afflicted with this disease, which is about one in every 21 people of all ages. Well over 50% of these people wander and become lost. Not only Alzheimer's patients but people with dementia, autism and Down's Syndrome also have a propensity to wander. They are unaware of their situation. They do not call out for help and do not respond to people calling out to them. Nearly half of them will die and many can become injured or fall victim to predators if they are not located within 24 hours.

The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office is working with Project Lifesaver International towards providing a valuable tool to help locate those patients who wander before they fall victim to the elements, accidents or predators. Project Lifesaver is a non-profit organization that is currently working in 48 States, Canada and Australia and has recorded over 3,000 recoveries with no negative results.

How Project Lifesaver Works

Project Lifesaver has combined "tried and true" radio technology with rescue teams from the local community, including law enforcement, to build an effective life-saving system that has proven itself to be reliable, responsible, practical and affordable.

People who are part of the CCSO Project Lifesaver program wear a personalized wristband that emits a tracking signal. When caregivers notify 911 that the person is missing, a search and rescue team is dispatched with the tracking device. Search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes.

- Alzheimer
- Dementia
- Autism
- Down's Syndrome
- Closed Brain Injuries



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Together...."Bringing loved ones home"