

“Project Lifesaver”

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

“Project Lifesaver's” mission is to use state of the art technology in assisting those who care for victims of Alzheimer's and other Related Mental Dysfunction Disorders (ARMD) and victims who become lost. Victims of AMDR tend to wander from their homes. The project places radio transmitters on identified persons with ARMD. These transmitters assist caregivers and local emergency agencies in locating those who cannot help themselves.

Local Sponsor

Glacier Pilot Club of Flathead Valley

PO Box 2285

Kalispell, MT 59903

Contact: Joni McKiernan

406-261-0184

joni@montana.com -

Matching grant funds are available for any donations made for Project Lifesaver to Glacier Pilot Club of Flathead Valley



Funding Sponsorship



Sheriff Chuck Curry

For client enrollment or to make a financial donation

Contact:

Deputy Brian Heino

Search and Rescue Coordinator

Flathead County Sheriff's Office

800 S. Main Street|

Kalispell, MT 59901

(406) 758-5585

bheino@flathead.mt.gov

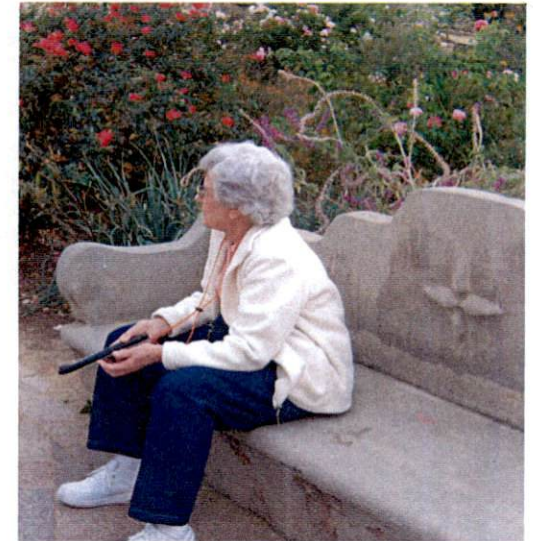
Flathead County Search and Rescue

Team

“Dedicated to Search
Management and Education”



Flathead County Sheriff's Office Introduces Project Lifesaver



**A Proven Program
To Locate At-risk People
Who May Wander**

Alzheimer's

Autism

Down's Syndrome



The Bracelet

Project Lifesaver is designed to provide a safety net for the most vulnerable citizens in our community. Each client is

provided with a small 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 Flathead County Sheriff's office and local volunteer search and rescue teams.

Using a mobile locator system, search crews are able to monitor the transmitter signal and locate the client.

The signal can be detected inside a building or outside, day or night, up to a mile away on the ground and 5 - 6 miles from the air.

Project Lifesaver experiences an average rescue time of less than 30 minutes.



The Need for Project Lifesaver

Over 5 million people in the USA have Alzheimer's or a related disorder. That number will triple by 2050. Well over 50% of these people wander and become lost, a constant worry for caretakers. A lost person with Alzheimer's, Autism or other medical disorders represent a critical emergency. Nearly half of them will die and many become injured if they are not located within 24 hours.

Autism is the nation's fastest growing serious developmental disorder in children. It has reached epidemic proportions. In 1985, 1 in 2500 children was diagnosed with autism. Today that number is 1 in 110. Autism prevalence rose 57% between 2002 and 2006.

Project Lifesaver forms partnerships with local law enforcement and public safety organizations. Project Lifesaver deploys specially trained teams with the most reliable technology available to quickly locate and return wandering adults and children to their family and caregivers.

Project Lifesaver emphasizes relationships between team members and the people who may wander *before* the need may arise for a rescue. Team members visit the home of the bracelet recipients to install the transmitter and change the batteries monthly. Team members are not only trained in the use of the electronic tracking equipment, but especially in methods to communicate with a person who has Autism, Alzheimer's or a related disorder. Locating the person is only part of the mission. The person who is lost may be disoriented, anxious, and untrusting. The Project Lifesaver team members knows how to approach the person, gain their trust and put them at ease for the trip home.

Project Lifesaver, a non-profit organization, has become internationally recognized as an aggressive and proven program that saves lives. It is an active response to a problem of locating wandering persons before they fall victim to the elements.

Personnel are available to schedule a presentation to your club or group.

