

Community Support

The Huron County Sheriff's Office will implement Project Lifesaver. They will monitor the program including battery replacement to insure that the system is operating properly.

Services for the Aging and the Huron County Board of Developmental Disabilities will jointly be responsible for the intake process for placing individuals in the program. Referrals may come from agencies throughout the county as well as individuals.

Mercy Willard Foundation will serve as the fiscal agent for Huron County Project Lifesaver. All donations made to the Foundation will be held in a restricted account to be used exclusively for Huron County Project Lifesaver.



The Mercy Willard Foundation is a 501c3 organization who will serve as the fiscal agent for Huron County Project Lifesaver. All donations to support Huron County Project Lifesaver may be made to the Mercy Willard Foundation designated to Huron County Project Lifesaver. These donations will be held as restricted funds to be used solely for Huron County Project Lifesaver expenditures.



Mercy Willard Foundation

1100 Neal Zick Rd.
Willard, OH 44890

Phone: 419-455-7039
Fax: 419-245-6073

Huron County Project Lifesaver



Bringing loved ones home



A public safety program designed to protect and locate missing persons due to wandering.



What is Project Lifesaver?

Project Lifesaver was established in April of 1999 as an initiative of the 43rd Search & 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 individuals of Alzheimer's and other Related Mental Dysfunctional Disabilities (ARMD) and victims who become lost. These victims include the elderly and the youngest in our community who are afflicted with Down Syndrome, Autism or developmental disorders. There are no boundaries—no one is immune!

The project Lifesaver program places personalized radio transmitters on identified persons who may wander away from the safety of their homes. These transmitters assist caregivers and the Huron County Sheriff's Office to locate those who cannot help themselves.

Results of Transmitters

The Project Lifesaver transmitter wristband is more than a passive ID wristband. It is a one-ounce, battery operated radio wrist transmitter that emits an automatic tracking signal every second 24 hours a day. The signal can be tracked over several miles on the ground by members of the Huron County Sheriff's Office.

Each wrist band has a unique radio frequency that enables the Project Lifesaver search team to positively locate and identify a person who has wandered away from home or a care facility using a specially designed radio receiver.

People who use the services of the Project Lifesaver program wear a personalized wristband away from home or a facility using a specially designed radio receiver. Identified individuals wear a personalized wristband that emits a constant tracking signal. Specially trained search teams have reduced the time it takes to locate a missing persons from hours and days to only minutes.

Community volunteers and members of the Sheriff's office are trained in rescue operations, proper maintenance of equipment, and how to enroll people in the program.

Transmitters have been placed on those with Alzheimer's, Dementia and children with Autism, Down Syndrome or developmental disorders.

Local emergency teams respond to calls resulting in an average rescue time of less than 30 minutes.

If you are interested in this service or would like additional information please contact:

Kari Smith at Huron County Board of DD

419-668-8840 x 1402

Lucinda Smith or Pam Woodruff at Services for the Aging

419-668-6245

Huron County Project Lifesaver

Committee Members

Ron Robinson, Huron County Sheriff's Department/Project Lifesaver Chair

Ricky Branham, Pastor Ripley Chapel, Willard Chamber of Commerce, Mercy Willard Hospital

Marsha Danhoff, Mercy Willard Hospital

Chris Hipp, Mayor Wakeman

Dane Howard, Huron County Sheriff's Department

Mark Kaufman, Bellevue Chief of Police

Betsy Neuberger, Social Services Fisher Titus Medical Center

Arthur Pember, Lions Representative—Norwalk

Carol Robinson, Coordinator, Children's Services Huron County Board of DD

Kari Smith, Superintendent Huron County Board of DD

Lucinda Smith, Services for the Aging Norwalk

Becky Wineman, Community Services Representative, The Willows at Willard