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## Sandusky County Project Lifesaver



Bringing loved ones home

*"When a loved one chooses to wander from their residence, the panic alarm is sounded. With any emergency, our goal is to arrive expeditiously in order to provide lifesaving measures. As with any missing person investigation, time is critical. A person wandering around in the outdoors may have limited time for survival."*

Project LifeSaver exists to assist public safety forces with locating a loved one, who is prone to wandering and has gone missing, as quickly as possible. Those who meet the criteria for involvement in the program are fitted with a transponder that emits a signal to a receiver utilized by a trained deputy sheriff, firefighter or paramedic. The use of this equipment allows Project Lifesaver to, literally, live up to its name. The Sandusky County Sheriff's Office is pleased to partner with Living in Faith Together, Sandusky County EMS and Sandusky County Fireman's Association in this most worthwhile public safety program.

*Sheriff Christopher J. Hilton*

Christopher J. Hilton, Sheriff, Sandusky County Ohio

### Benefits of Project Lifesaver:

- Peace of mind – a wandering person can be located within minutes of discovering them missing
- Loved ones are not subjected to hours of darkness, poor weather conditions, and/or predators
- Trained rescuers approach calmly and safely return your loved ones home
- Saves thousands of taxpayer dollars and resources
- Lightweight, easy to wear bracelets
- Help is immediate

Thanks to the generous support of sponsors, supporters and providers, Project Lifesaver is available to the residents of Sandusky County free of charge to the clients which we serve.

Endorsed by:



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





PROJECT LIFESAVER'S PROGRAM HAS HELPED PROVIDE THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES PEACE OF MIND DAILY KNOWING THAT THEIR LOVED ONE HAS PROTECTION AND SAFETY IN CASE THEY WANDER.

3,480 RESCUED NATIONALLY AS OF 10-18-2018

### Project Lifesaver

Project Lifesaver is an active response to the problem of locating people who may not be able to find their way home, before they become victims. The average rescue time is less than 30 minutes.

A lost person with any kind of dementia or a developmental disability is unaware of his/her situation. They do not call out for help and do not respond to people calling out to them. Nearly half of these missing and wandering will die if they are not located within 24 hours.

The Project Lifesaver team is trained how to approach a person with Alzheimer's disease or a

developmental disability, gain their trust and put them at ease for the trip home.

### The Technology

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

Each wristband 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. Those who use the services of the Project Lifesaver program wear a personalized wristband that emits a constant tracking signal. Specially trained search teams have reduced the time it takes to locate a missing person from hour and days to only minutes.

Sandusky County Sheriff's Deputies, Firefighters, and Paramedics are trained in rescue operations, proper maintenance of equipment, and how to enroll those eligible into the program.

### Contact Information

Sandusky County Sheriff's Office	419 332-2613
Sandusky County Board of DD	419 332-9296
WSOS Senior Services	419 334-8911
Sandusky Co. Jobs and Family Serv.	419 334-3891

### Prospective Client Criteria

1. Three years of age or older
2. Resident of Sandusky County or live with a caregiver in Sandusky County
3. Must be under the care of a caregiver at all times.
4. Have documented diagnosis from a physician or other qualified medical

professional. Must be diagnosed as being afflicted with Alzheimer's, Dementia, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Down Syndrome, or other medically diagnosed issue(s) that could cause the client to wander, and would place the client at risk of physical harm.

5. Have documented history of wandering due to their diagnosis, and be highly susceptible to wandering. In some cases, clients that are at a high risk of wandering, even if the risk has been mitigated by the installation of security devices and proper supervision may be accepted into the program.
6. Not designed to serve clients who are diagnosed with behavior disorders.

### Sandusky County Committee Members

Sheriff Christopher J. Hilton – Sandusky County Sheriff's Office  
 Chief Deputy Ed Hastings – Sandusky County Sheriff's Office  
 Sgt. Eric Arquette – Sandusky County Sheriff's Office, Project Lifesaver Chair  
 Capt. Mike Meggitt – Sandusky County Sheriff's Office, Project Lifesaver Vice Chair  
 Chief David Foes – Fremont Fire Department  
 Chief Jeff Jackson – Sandusky County EMS  
 Paramedic Clay Finken – Sandusky County EMS  
 Daniel Sanchez, Mayor, City of Fremont  
 Pastor Jeff Martin, First Missionary Church, Clyde  
 Pastor Scott Mauch, Living in Faith Together ministry  
 Sarah Zimmerman – Sandusky County Board of DD  
 Ruth Watson - Sandusky County Board of DD  
 Melanie Allen – Sandusky County Jobs and Family Services  
 Linda Ackerman – Sandusky County Jobs and Family Services  
 Ruthann House – WSOS Senior Services  
 Robin Richter – WSOS Senior Services