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## What is Project Lifesaver - Iowa?

Project Lifesaver - Iowa is a program that provides a tracking system to locate individuals who have the tendency to wander and become lost.

### How does it work?

Individuals enrolled in the program wear a bracelet on the wrist or ankle that emits a radio signal every second. The lost person is located using receivers that pick up this signal. The signal is specific and personalized for each individual.

### Program Locations?

Project Lifesaver - Iowa serves nine counties in northwest Iowa – Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, and Sioux. Any public safety organization is welcome to expand the program throughout Iowa.

### Who can utilize the program?

Any person who has the tendency to wander can benefit from the program. Persons with Alzheimer's Disease, Down's Syndrome, Autism and other related disorders are candidates for the bracelets.

## What happens when an enrollee wanders?

The caregiver notifies the local law enforcement agency and a search is initiated using trained and certified tracking personnel. Search and rescue times are drastically reduced from hours and days to minutes.

### How do I enroll someone?

To enroll in the program, call Northwest Aging Association (800-242-5033) to speak with the program coordinator. The process and the requirements of enrollment will be explained before a bracelet is provided.



### How much does it cost?

The cost of the transmitter (bracelet) is \$300 and a \$10 monthly maintenance fee is charged for battery replacement. Scholarships, lease options, and state funding may be available for those who cannot afford the initial and/or ongoing cost.



## Why should someone participate in Project Lifesaver - Iowa?

Peace of mind for caregivers is a primary reason for enrollment in the program. It alleviates the anxiety associated with wandering habits of loved ones. Also it is an active response to the problem of locating wandering patients before they fall victim to the elements, accidents or predators.

### Who sponsors the program?

Project Lifesaver - Iowa is a collaborative effort between Fire Departments, Law Enforcement and other agencies.

## FACTS

**Unit Locates Day or Night Inside or Outside**

**Average Rescue Time:** *under 30 minutes after arriving on the scene.*

**No Injuries or Deaths:** *100% success record*

**Average Number of Trained Officers Used in Project Lifesavers Searches:** *2*

*Without equipment, searches require off duty officers, volunteers, helicopters, heat-seeking scopes and dogs.*

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**Project Lifesaver - Iowa is a partnership of:**

- Clay County Sheriff
- Dickinson County Sheriff
- Spencer Police Department
- Clay County S.A.L.T. Triad
- Dickinson County S.A.L.T.
- Buena Vista County Sheriff
- Emmet County Sheriff
- Lyon County Sheriff
- O'Brien County Sheriff
- Osceola County Sheriff
- Palo Alto County Sheriff
- Sioux County Sheriff

Project Lifesaver is also available in Scott County and Sioux City, Iowa



S.A.L.T. Triad

Funding provided through a grant from the Iowa Department of Elder Affairs - Elder Abuse Initiative

[www.projectlifesaver.org](http://www.projectlifesaver.org)  
[www.nwaging.org](http://www.nwaging.org)

**Are there other Project Lifesaver programs?**

Project Lifesaver was started in Chesapeake, Virginia and is continuing to grow nationally and internationally. Northwest Aging Association is the program coordinator for the State of Iowa.

“Project Lifesaver is designed to provide comfort for the family while safely guarding the victim. More than 1600 successful searches have been conducted.”

*Col. Saunders in Virginia  
Commander of the 43rd Search & Rescue*

“If you have a loved one with any type of special need, regardless of age, with the propensity to wander protect them by enrolling in Project Lifesaver.”

*Donneta and Jerry  
Parents/ Caregivers  
Spencer, Iowa*

**Project Lifesaver - Iowa**

**Northwest Aging Association  
714 10th Avenue East  
PO Box 213  
Spencer, Iowa 51301  
1-800-242-5033 - ext. 17**

**Project  
Lifesaver-Iowa**



*Tracking Program for  
individuals who wander.*



Northwest Aging Association