

# WANDERING RESOURCES



## TRACKING DEVICES

### PROJECT LIFESAVER



**Bringing Loved  
Ones Home**

Project Lifesaver is a 501 (C)(3) non-profit community based, public safety organization that provides law enforcement, fire/rescue, and caregivers with a program designed to protect, and when necessary, quickly locate individuals with cognitive disorders who are prone to the life threatening behavior of wandering.

**CONTACT** .....(877) 580-LIFE (5433)  
[www.projectlifesaver.org](http://www.projectlifesaver.org)

#### For Palm Beach County ONLY

- **PALM BEACH COUNTY PROJECT LIFESAVER**

**CONTACT:** Linda Boucher..... (561) 723-0372  
[lboucher@projectlifesaver.org](mailto:lboucher@projectlifesaver.org) (for Alzheimer's/Dementia and Other Disabilities)

- **FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)

**CONTACT:** Trish Mathis..... (561) 297-2055  
[mathisp@fau.edu](mailto:mathisp@fau.edu) (for clients on the Autism Spectrum ONLY)

### SAFETY NET TRACKING SYSTEMS



The SafetyNet Tracking™ Systems Service, a for-profit company, provides law enforcement and public safety agencies with training, equipment and technology to help them quickly find and rescue individuals with cognitive conditions such as Autism and Alzheimer's who wander and become lost while enrolled in the SafetyNet Tracking™ Systems Service.

**CONTACT:** Emily or Caitlin ..... (877) 434-6384  
[www.safetynettracking.com](http://www.safetynettracking.com) | [customerservice@safetynettracking.com](mailto:customerservice@safetynettracking.com)

### CALL 911 if your loved one is missing.



- Provide Law Enforcement with diagnosis
- Information about tracking devices
- Other identifying information to aid in the search.

# WANDERING PREVENTION

## NATIONAL AUTISM ASSOCIATION



Founded in 2003, the National Autism Association is a parent-run non-profit organization and the leading voice on urgent issues related to severe autism, regressive autism, autism safety, autism abuse, and crisis prevention.

**CONTACT:** ..... (877) 622-2884  
[www.nationalautismassociation.org](http://www.nationalautismassociation.org) | [naa@nationalautism.org](mailto:naa@nationalautism.org)

## PERSONAL EMERGENCY PROFILE SHEET (with symbols)

<https://nationalautismassociation.org/personal-emergency-profile-sheet/>



Intentionally (or more frequently) complete and share with school staff, family, friends, neighbors, caregivers, police, fire, and rescue professionals.

**PERSONAL EMERGENCY PROFILE**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE PHOTO HERE  
 TRACKING FREQUENCY # \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT(S) IF LOST, MAY BE FOUND AT:** (daily places to go)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESTRICTIONS** (changes and diet) \_\_\_\_\_  
**MEDICAL NEEDS** (diagnoses, health concerns) \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNS OF ESCALATION** (Changes in behavior that show increased or decreased anxiety, anger, etc. Recommendations for diet and dietary.) \_\_\_\_\_

**LIKES** (Activities, favorite things, hobbies, interests, foods, drinks, verbal exchanges, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
**DISLIKES** (Things, situations, foods, things to avoid, foods, drinks, verbal exchanges, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Symbols aid understanding and communication for everyone. Show and point to symbols when talking with a frequent partner.

eat	drink	cold	Mom	Dad	call home	go home	deep breath
Yes	pain	safe	lost	add personal message here	add personal message here	add personal message here	No

## WANDERING QUICK TIPS (English)

<https://nationalautismassociation.org/wandering-quick-tips/>

## WANDERING QUICK TIPS (Spanish)

<http://nationalautismassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Autism-and-Wandering-Prevention-Tips-Flyer-Spanish.pdf>



**AUTISM & WANDERING PREVENTION TIPS**  
 promoting safety in the home & community

**49% wanderer**

Similar to the wandering behaviors in seniors with dementia or Alzheimer's, children and adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are prone to wandering away from a safe environment. Because many children with ASD have challenges in areas of language and cognitive function, it is critical for parents to understand ways to keep their child or adult with autism safe.

- Install Home Safeguards**
  - Install secure locks (entrance door), home security system or door/window alarms, fence yard, secure gates, large garage opener out of reach, use baby monitors and visual prompts like simple sign tips.
- Secure Personal Safeguards**
  - Have wearable identification on your child. Temporary tattoos are great for hot days and other outings. Check with local law enforcement to see if they offer tracking devices.
- Create Community Awareness**
  - Alert trusted neighbors, and introduce them to your child. Fill out an alert form for local police, include a current photo and unique characteristics, likes, fears, and behaviors; alert the school, and bus drivers.
- Remain Hyper-Vigilant**
  - Stay on extra high alert during warmer months, holidays, vacations, camping trips, bus/travel periods, outdoor gatherings, or event travel to a new home or school, visiting an unfamiliar setting, public meeting.
  - Initiate a "tag, you're it" system during family gatherings and transitions. Tag one responsible adult to closely supervise your child for an agreed-upon period of time.
- Identify Triggers/Teach Self-Help**
  - Be aware of any known triggers that could prompt leaving (loud noises, bright lights, fans, etc.) and work towards teaching your child safe alternative ways to respond.
- Teach Safety Skills**
  - Enroll your child into swimming lessons. Final lessons should be with lifelines and shoes on.
  - Use social stories to teach individuals with autism ways to stay safe, and use favorite objects or tools to demonstrate when it's suitable time to return home.
- Call 911**
  - Remain calm and always call 911 immediately if an individual with ASD is missing, law enforcement should treat each case as "critical."
  - Law enforcement agencies are encouraged to contact the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at 1-800-THE-ONE (1-800-843-5439) for additional assistance.
- Search Water First**
  - Immediately search areas that pose the highest threat first, such as nearby water, busy streets, busy tracks, and parked cars.

**NATIONAL AUTISM ASSOCIATION**  
 For more tips and resources, visit [nationalautism.org](http://nationalautism.org)

If you cannot read the material, please contact PBSO at (561) 688-3080 to request an alternate format.