

## In Lee County

Funding for Project Lifesaver in Lee County is a result of private and corporate donations. Project Lifesaver began as a partnership of the Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Pilot Club of Fort Myers, who was instrumental in bringing this much-needed program to Lee County.



*It is the policy of the Lee County Sheriff's Office to protect the Constitutional rights of all people, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical handicap, religion or other belief system or physical characteristic; and to treat each person with respect and dignity.*

**“Proud to Serve”**  
**Sheriff Mike Scott**

# PROJECT LIFESAVER

Lee  
County  
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**Sheriff Mike Scott**

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**“Proud to Serve”**

# Project Lifesaver

## What is Project Lifesaver?



Project Lifesaver was established in April of 1999 as an initiative of the 43rd

Search and Rescue Company of the Chesapeake Sheriff's Office and brought to Lee County in April 2006. Project Lifesaver's mission is to use state of the art technology in assisting those who care for victims of Alzheimer's and Autism as well as others with Related Mental Dysfunction Disorders (ARMD) who tend to wander. This includes the elderly and even the youngest in our community. There are no boundaries—no one is immune!

## How it works.

Project Lifesaver relies on proven radio technology and a specially trained search and rescue team. Clients that are enrolled in the Project Lifesaver program wear a personalized wristband that emits a tracking signal. When caregivers notify the Lee County Sheriff's Office that the person is missing, a search and rescue team responds to the wanderer's area and starts searching with the mobile locator tracking system. Search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes. In over 1800 searches, there have been no reported serious injuries or death. Recovery times average less than 30 minutes.

Project Lifesaver teams are specially trained, not only in search and rescue and the use of the electronic tracking equipment, but also in the methods necessary to communicate with a person who has Alzheimer's disease or related disorder. Locating the individual is only part of the mission. The person who is located can be disoriented, anxious, and untrusting. The Project Lifesaver team knows how to approach the person to gain their trust and put them at ease for the trip home.

## Mission

Project Lifesaver International (PLI) helps provide rapid response to save lives and reduce potential for serious injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, Autism, Down Syndrome, dementia and other related disorders. PLI provides equipment, training, certification and support to law enforcement, public safety organizations and community groups which operate the Project Lifesaver program in their communities. PLI has over 1,000 participating agencies across the U.S., Canada and Australia, and has performed over 1,900 searches in the last 10 years with a 100% success rate.

## Contact Information:

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