

MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

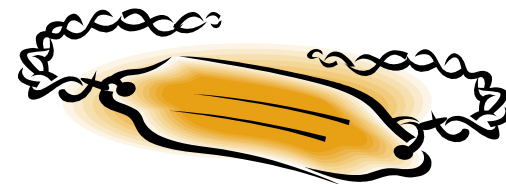
Youth & Community Services Bureau



E.S.P.

(Extra Special Person)

Memory Impaired Program



A program designed to help provide family and caregiver support, and identify persons with Alzheimer's or dementia in times of an emergency, or who may be prone to wandering and getting lost or confused.

Tips to help reduce wandering

- Encourage movement and exercise to reduce anxiety, agitation and restlessness
- Ensure all basic needs are met (nutrition, thirst, toileting)
- Involve the person in daily activities, such as folding laundry or preparing dinner
- Place color-matching cloth over door knobs to camouflage
- Redirect pacing or restless behavior
- Place a mirror near doorways. The reflection of a person's own face will often stop him or her from exiting the door
- Reassure the person if he or she feels lost, abandoned or disoriented

**If the person becomes lost or missing,
call 9-1-1 immediately**

Alzheimer's Association website 2007

Marion County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 1987
Ocala, FL 34478
(352) 732-8181

Background Information

The ESP program is similar to the Safe Return Program sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association for persons with memory disorders who may be prone to wander.

It is not uncommon for persons with Alzheimer's or dementia to wander and become lost. In fact, according to the Alzheimer's Association (2007), over 60 percent of those with dementia will wander at some point. Wandering can be dangerous - even life threatening - for persons who wander, and this can cause stress on the caregivers and family.

How The Program Works

- A referral is received from a citizen, family member or health care provider and forwarded to the Crisis Intervention/ Victim Advocate Unit at the Marion County Sheriff's Office.
- Personal contact is made with the caller.
- An on-site assessment is made and the person is enrolled in the ESP program after the required forms are completed.
- Program participants are photographed and assigned an ESP (Extra Special Person) bracelet on-site. Each bracelet is identified by number and has the Marion County Sheriff's Office 24 hour contact number printed on the back. If the person becomes lost, contact can be established w/ the Sheriff's Office to help identify the person.

Who Can Enroll

Enrollment in the ESP program is open to any Marion County resident who may not be able to speak for themselves and/or any one who has been diagnosed with some type of memory disorder such as: Alzheimer's or dementia, or have a communication problem as the result of a stroke.

How To Enroll

To obtain an application & bracelet please contact:

Marion County Sheriff's Office

Youth and Community Services Bureau

PO Box 1987

Ocala, FL 34478

(352) 369-6745

(352) 368-3535

How Much Will It Cost?

There is no fee involved. The ID bracelet and participation in the ESP program is voluntary and free of charge.

Other Community Resources

Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance - (352) 615-3202
for Education & Support, Inc. (352) 671-9600

Marion County Senior Services - (352) 620-3501