

Walk Away Program

The program was designed and implemented in 1999 as a way for police officers to better locate persons who have a memory impairment either from a developmental disability, dementia or Alzheimer's, impairment from a stroke, or a traumatic impact impairment such as memory loss due to a head injury.

To register, the primary caregiver can contact the police department in order to complete a form that will contain such information as the type of impairment, the individuals name and physical description, as well as any other pertinent information. A picture of the individual will be taken and all information and photos are entered into a database that may be accessed quickly by police department dispatch and officers.

A bracelet may be issued if the subject has a history of independence or frequent wandering away from their caregiver. The bracelet is not a permanent item and may be removed for hospital/lab visitation. A person who is entered in to the program remains until removed by the caregiver or other information is received.



Walk Away Bracelet Program



CONTACT

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Walk Away Bracelet Program
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Memory Impaired ID Bracelets

Walk Away Bracelet Program

The program is free for anyone who may become disoriented or have a tendency to wander from their family or care giver. Program participation is voluntary and all information is kept confidential.

At this time, there are more than 100 individuals that are enlisted in the program. It is a great comfort and helps bring peace of mind to their families and caretakers that we are better able to assist if they happen to wander and get lost.

Not all participants choose to wear the stainless steel bracelets we provide, however, they are helpful in locating someone. The front of the bracelet is inscribed with the words "Memory Impaired" a client ID # and the non-emergency Police dispatch telephone number.



If a disoriented individual is found wandering in a store or out on the street, the bracelet aids us in being able to match them up within the system, allowing us to contact their family or caretaker.

Forms are available at the Lake Havasu City Police Department upon request.

Although the program was initially developed with the idea of helping the cities senior citizen's, it is not solely restricted to them. Any person who can become disoriented and lost due to any type of medical condition is eligible to participate.

In one case, an officer responded to an endangered missing persons call. The person was located and was signed up for the Walk Away Program and assigned a bracelet so we could quickly identify them and locate their family in the event they ever wandered away again.

On another occasion, the Fire Department responded to a call of a reported man down on the sidewalk. Upon arriving they noticed the subject was wearing his "Memory Impaired" bracelet and notified the police department. A quick search located the injured man's wife whose routine was to shop at a drug store while her husband waited in the car. Unfortunately, on this occasion, he wandered approximately four blocks where he tripped and injured himself.

If you are interested in finding out more information on the Walk Away Bracelet Program, please contact:

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