

# Ozaukee County Safety Registry

**Who will it help?  
How does it work?**

***The Safety Registry is a free service for people that may become lost or confused and not be able to find their way home.***

A person may unexpectedly leave home because they are looking for something, trying to escape from something, or are just confused. Sometimes people wander because of a cognitive impairment caused by a diagnosis such as autism in a young person or dementia in an older person.

A person who has always taken a safe walk around the block may suddenly turn a different direction for no apparent reason. A room may become unfamiliar and the person walks outdoors instead of into the next room. Daytime and nighttime can become confusing so the person unexpectedly goes out in the dark when family is not aware. If someone may be driving, they may become confused on the road and get lost.

**This will ensure that police have the information they need to reunite you faster. An extra level of security and safety in Ozaukee County**

**This may never happen but if it should, you are reassured that your loved one is on the Safety Registry**



- A missing loved one is stressful to families.
- The first instance of wandering can come without warning, can be dangerous and even life threatening to the person.

## ***How does the Ozaukee County Safety Registry work?***

The Ozaukee County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) maintains descriptive information and photographs of Ozaukee County residents who may be at risk if they leave home alone. If someone is found wandering, the Sheriff's Department and all Ozaukee County police departments can access the Registry listing to review the pictures and related descriptions. If a match is found, the police will immediately call the contacts listed on the registry form. Law Enforcement can also use this information to more quickly issue a Silver Alert statewide if you deem it necessary.

## ***How can you enroll someone on the Safety Registry?***

Complete an information sheet about the person. This form is available from local police departments, the Sheriff's Department, or the Ozaukee County Aging and Disability Resource Center. The Ozaukee County ADRC staff will call the first contact person listed on the form annually to conduct a simple phone review of the information. In between reviews, the contact person should notify the ADRC of changes – if the person moves, has a change in appearance, is no longer able to wander, etc.

**If you would like more assistance in completing the registry form,  
please call the ADRC at 262-284-8120**

*Where you can get more information if you are caring for a loved one whose behaviors or diagnosis may put them at greater risk*

- **The Ozaukee County Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC):** (262) 284-8120 or (262) 238-8120. This resource center has staff available Monday—Friday from 8:30—5 to answer any questions or concerns or provide information on issues affecting adults over the age of 60 or disabled adults over the age of 18. Information is available on all aspects of coping with changes in thinking, communication or problem-solving and the stresses that may bring, community services to assist families and individuals dealing with dementia, programs to assist family caregivers, legal documents that a person with dementia should complete, and funding programs that can offer assistance to eligible individuals. Staff will help families understand and sort through their options. Staff can offer information and assistance over the phone, make appointments for office visits, or meet with families in their home.
- **The Alzheimer’s Association 24-hour Helpline:** 1-800-272-3900. The Alzheimer’s Association offers community programs, support services, reliable information, and a myriad of publications and references. The 24-hour Helpline is especially useful for family members who may have urgent need for information and help. The local office serving Ozaukee County can be contacted at 414-479-8800.
- **Caregiver Coalition of Ozaukee County:** The Coalition offers a variety of informal coffee gatherings where family caregivers can meet to receive support and ideas from other caregivers. The Coalition also offers a variety of caregiver education events throughout the year. Go to [www.ozccc.org](http://www.ozccc.org) for more information
- **The Ozaukee County Department of Human Services—Children’s Disability Services Telephone number:** (262)284-8200 or (262)238-8200 and ask to speak with the intake social worker for children’s developmental disabilities services. The Ozaukee County Developmental Disabilities Program offers information and referral services to any family caregiver or person in the community with a connection to a child with severe developmental disabilities. Information is available on community services and funding programs that may be available to assist eligible family members. Staff can offer information and assistance over the phone, make appointments for office visits, or meet with families in their home.
- **Ozaukee County Department of Human Services—Abuse and Neglect of Older Adults age 60 or up or Vulnerable Adults between 18-59:** (262)284-8200 or (262)238-8200. Adult Protective Services (“APS”) will investigate safety concerns related to wandering or memory changes. APS is also responsible for vulnerable adults who may be suffering from physical or financial abuse or who may have become so confused that they need help in making medical or other decisions affecting their welfare. APS offers a voluntary reporting system and a helping network to respond to victim’s needs. Identities of those reporting are kept confidential. NOTE: After hours, please call your local law enforcement agency.
- **Ozaukee County OCARC** is the Ozaukee County chapter of Arc which is the world’s largest community based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Ozaukee County Arc; P.O. Box 526, Port Washington, WI 53074 –0526; 262-376-9503; email: [ocarc@ocarc.org](mailto:ocarc@ocarc.org)