

Melrose Alert Program

Background

- ▣ The Melrose Alert Program is designed to collect specific information about a potential missing person, along with photo identification.
- ▣ The plan covers residents with serious cognitive impairments such as autism, Alzheimer's' or some other condition that put them at risk for wandering and getting lost.

Melrose Alert

- ▣ The City of Melrose plans to take a proactive approach toward protecting some of Melrose's most vulnerable citizens.
- ▣ In Melrose, our Police Department and council on Aging are joining forces and putting together a recovery plan designed to provide rapid response in locating cognitively impaired residents who have been reported missing.
- ▣ The Melrose Police Department will take up-to-date photographs of the resident along with listing any locations where they frequently visit. This confidential information will be kept on file for immediate use in the event a loved one is reported missing.

Statistics

- ▣ An estimated 5.4 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease. Currently, someone develops the disease every 70 seconds.
- ▣ With the aging population, as many as 16 million people will have this debilitating disease by 2050.
- ▣ Seven out of ten Alzheimer's patients live at home and over 60% will wander or become lost.
- ▣ These statistics are frightening for their loved ones and caregivers because those wandering may not be dressed appropriately for extreme weather or may be in need of important medication.

Suggestions

- ❑ Communicate with healthcare providers to recognize potential wanderers and provide information to their caregivers about the Melrose Alert Program.
- ❑ Besides educating families through the Melrose Alert Program, additional support and information can be given regarding other resources that the families can utilize.
- ❑ Coplink is a widely used system that brings together Law Enforcement data from multiple jurisdictions. The system includes information sharing data analytics, biometric data and lead generation that can be used across the state.
 - This data sharing system should be used in all participating communities in order for each city or town to have access to each others' records.

Pre-registration

- ▣ Residents with a family member of any age suffering from a serious cognitive impairment are encouraged to register their loved one **before** a serious situation arises.
- ▣ In Melrose, the Police Department hosts a booth at the annual Victorian Town Fair to promote pre-registration and provide additional information.
- ▣ In addition residents may sign up through the Melrose Council on Aging or at the Melrose Department Police Department online or in person.

Example of Melrose's Registration Form



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Melrose Wandering Alert

For information, please call 781-665-4304

REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Potential Wanderer			
Date of Birth		SS# (optional)	
Primary Address			
Primary Telephone		Secondary Telephone	
Gender		Height	
Build		Race	
Hair Color	Hair Style	Facial Hair & Style (beard, etc)	Length of Facial Hair
Eye Color	Eye Glasses	Eye Glass Style	Contact Lenses

REPORTING PARTY

Name of Reporting Party		Relationship to the Applicant	
Primary telephone number	Secondary telephone number	Email	
Address of Reporting Party			
Signature of Reporting Party		Today's Date	

A collaborative effort of The Melrose Police Department and the Melrose Council on Aging to protect Melrose residents with serious cognitive impairment.

Thank You

Chief Michael L. Lyle

