



A Program of Conley Outreach Community Services
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630/365-2880

Community Care Team News

March/April 2005

In This Issue

This issue is dedicated to information about senior services in our area. Please share this newsletter with others in your community.

Safe Return Program

Do you know someone caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease? Persons with Alzheimer's lose their ability to recognize familiar places and faces. Many cannot remember their name or address. They may become disoriented and lost in their neighborhood or far from home.

It is common for a person with Alzheimer's to wander, often repeatedly, as the disease progresses. This behavior can be dangerous, even life-threatening to individuals and stressful for caregivers.

The Alzheimer's Association **Safe Return Program** assists in the safe return of individuals with Alzheimer's or a related dementia who wander and become lost. **Safe Return** is a nationwide identification, support and registration program working at the community level. **Safe Return** provides assistance whether a person becomes lost locally or far from home. Assistance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, whenever a person is lost or found. The registration fee of \$40 includes identification jewelry and a caregiver checklist. Caregivers must supply

information about their loved one, including a photo, medical information, emergency contact information, social security number, local law enforcement information and physical description.

If a registrant is missing, **Safe Return** will fax the person's information and photo to the local law enforcement department. If a registrant is found, a citizen or law official can call the 800 number on the identification jewelry. **Safe Return** can access registrant information and notify the listed contacts.

For more information contact:

Alzheimer's Association Safe Return Program

P.O. Box 3687

Chicago IL 60690-3687

OR

888/572-8566

TDD: 888/500-5759

www.alzheimers-illinois.org

Stay Connected with Lifeline

Lifeline is a personal response and support system for seniors living independently. One push of a button on the Lifeline necklace or bracelet gets you immediate help, allows you to answer your phone without rushing and provides access to trained professionals 24 hours a day, every day. Lifeline is available from Sherman Homecare Partners. Call 847/429-6218 for more information and rates.

Support Services for Caregivers

Are you or someone you know caring for a loved one over the age of 60? It may be an aging parent, an ailing spouse or a neighbor you are helping out. If so, you may be interested in the support services available from the Elderday Center in Batavia.

- **Free Individual or Family Counseling** to anyone providing care giving services to an older adult 60+. The caregiver does not have to be living with the older adult to qualify.
- **Family Caregiver Support Group** meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings include an information segment as well as time to share. Open to all providing care to an adult 60+. Free.
- **Powerful Tools for Caregivers** is a 6-week educational program for caregivers. Topics include managing stress, communicating with healthcare and service providers, dealing with difficult feelings and making tough decisions. The cost is \$30 and includes a manual.

Call Elderday for more information about these services: 761-9750.

Older Adult Day Programs

Many older adults cannot be left alone during the day while caregivers are at work or running errands. There are several area adult day programs that provide a safe, stimulating environment for elderly loved ones.

- **Elderday Center** located at 8 S. Lincoln in Batavia. 761-9750
- **Rachel's Place** 411 Spring Street in Aurora. 896-9022
- **Oakcrest Residence** 204 S. State Street in Elgin. 847/742-2255
- **Fox Valley Older Adult Services** 1406 Suydam Road in Sandwich. 815/786-9404

- **Senior Service Center** 330 Grove Street in DeKalb. 815/758-4718

Senior Services Associates

Senior Services Associates is our local not-for-profit senior assistance agency. It provides a variety of services, including:

- **Information, Referral and Outreach.** Information is available over the phone or during a home visit and includes help with social security, Medicare, energy assistance, circuit breaker and more.
- **Case Management Services.** Case managers assess the need for in-home assistance, develop an overall plan of care and follow up once services are in place.
- **Elder Abuse Intervention**
- **Nursing Home Ombudsman Services**
- **Adult Day Center**
- **Recreation, Education and Health Programs**
- **Transportation (limited areas)**

Call the Kane County Senior Services at 630/897-4035 for more information about service eligibility.

Other Resources

- **Right at Home** provides a variety of non-medical services, including respite care, meal preparation, transportation and errands, assistance with dressing and bathing and more. For more information call Kathy Wetters at 879-1965.
- **Comfort Keepers** is another in-home non-medical care provider. Call Terri Jacobsen at 892-9600.
- **Care Management Inc.** provides assessment/referrals, management and monitoring of senior services. Call Mary Meypans at 466-1400 for more information.
- **Peggy's Pack & Prep** helps seniors pack up, clean up and sell their homes. Call 294-9474.