



**VILLAGE OF CRETE**  
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# Press Release

## Crete PD Partners with MedicAlert Foundation to Provide Free Medical IDs and Services to Community Members At-Risk for Wandering

(June x, 2017) Crete, IL – The Village of Crete Police Department, in partnership with MedicAlert Foundation, has announced a free program aimed to protect community members with dementia and autism who are at-risk for wandering emergencies. Through the new program, the Crete Police Department will now be able to enroll local residents (and their caregivers), via an online portal, into the MedicAlert national registry/database to receive a [free medical identification bracelet](#) and [free 24/7 emergency support services](#).

While the wandering statistics for Alzheimer’s disease and autism are staggering (6 in 10 adults with Alzheimer’s or related dementia will wander, and 50% of individuals with autism spectrum disorders will elope); MedicAlert has been hailed as an important part of the overall safety plan for families with a loved one at-risk of wandering. The charity reports that there is a 98% success rate for locating missing persons when MedicAlert products and services are utilized.

MedicAlert has developed specialized services to address wandering emergencies: [MedicAlert® + Alzheimer’s Association Safe Return®](#) is for individuals with Alzheimer’s or related dementia, and [MedicAlert Found®](#) is for children and adults with autism spectrum and developmental disorders. These services are being offered at no charge to community members, along with a free MedicAlert identification bracelet. “We know that wandering is a grave concern for families, especially those with loved ones who have a dementia or autism spectrum diagnosis,” says David Leslie, President and CEO for MedicAlert Foundation. “Therefore, we are pleased to work with the Crete Police Department to further protect their community members who are at risk.”

Residents who have loved ones that are at-risk for wandering are encouraged to enroll in the free program. Interested residents may contact the Village of Crete Police Department at 708.672.0911 or visit [www.villageofcrete.org](http://www.villageofcrete.org).

### About MedicAlert Foundation

Established in 1956, the nonprofit MedicAlert Foundation pioneered the use of medical IDs and delivers the most dependable, responsive, and trusted Emergency Identification and Medical Information Network. MedicAlert Foundation medical IDs alert emergency personnel to a member’s primary health conditions, medications or implanted medical devices. In addition to its 24-hour emergency response service, MedicAlert Foundation also provides family and caregiver notification so that members can be

reunited with their loved ones. MedicAlert Foundation's L.E.A.P. program is a nation-wide program available to all law enforcement agencies who wish to protect their community members who are at-risk for wandering, visit [www.medicalert.org/leap](http://www.medicalert.org/leap) for more information.

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