**MedicAlert “Connect Protect” program**

Hamilton Police Services P.C. Kim Walker is the missing person coordinator for the Hamilton Police.  She advised that in November of 2015, the HPS announced a new partnership between the Hamilton Police and MedicAlert called the Connect Protect Program.  Connect Protect has replaced the Hamilton Police Wandering Person Registry.  Connect Protect benefits vulnerable citizens who are prone to wandering away from their environment regardless of age.  This includes children and adults living with autism, seniors affected by dementia / Alzheimer’s, Down Syndrome and others living with any cognitive disorders, including FASD.

The program works in two ways, once registered with MedicAlert’ s membership service plan, a person receives a body worn MedicAlert ID, in the form of a bracelet, necklace, sports band or watch, which features a unique engraved MedicAlert ID number.   If this person wanders, their caregiver can call police with the ID number via a link with MedicAlert’ s up to date database called HotLine Viewer, the officer can instantly access descriptive information / photo and even data about the past wandering tendencies, helping locate the wandering individual.

Secondly, when a lost or non-communicative person is found wearing their MedicAlert ID, police are able to access MedicAlert’ s database immediately identifying and reuniting them with the loved ones / caregiver faster.  Enrollment in the program will cost each client $60/year (\*\*Note: Medic Alert has a pilot program for Ontario Canada where the fee is waived for life). MedicAlert advise that anyone who is unable to afford can apply for membership assistance with MedicAlert.  The information and enrollment on each client is updated and maintained by MedicAlert.

If an individual is registered with MedicAlert, MedicAlert police partners (e.g. Hamilton Police) will have direct 24/7 access to your emergency information. MedicAlert collects descriptive information (as noted below) and an up-to-date photo.  If an individual wishes to provide the descriptive information to MedicAlert for an existing MedicAlert tag, they can provide this info by **email**: [customerservice@medicalert.ca](mailto:customerservice@medicalert.ca) (indicate subscriber ID, for MedicAlert to link the information to the appropriate file) or by **mail:**  MedicAlert Foundation Canada, [895 Don Mills Rd Suite 600, Toronto ON, M3C 1W3](https://maps.google.com/?q=895+Don+Mills+Rd+Suite+600,+Toronto+ON,+M3C+1W3&entry=gmail&source=g)

Descriptive / additional information includes: **Height, Weight, Hair Color, Eye Color, Race, Skin Complexion, Visible marks in the body (which may aid in identification), Wandering history, possible locations for wandering** and a photo.

**MedicAlert FASD pilot program**

[**Link for application**](https://www.fasdwaterlooregion.ca/news/2016/medic-alert-bracelet-identifies-those-with-fasd) **https://www.fasdwaterlooregion.ca/news/2016/medic-alert-bracelet-identifies-those-with-fasd**

[**Link for article**](http://www.midnorthmonitor.com/2015/12/14/nstc-begins-fasd-awareness-pilot-program-with-medic-alert) **http://www.midnorthmonitor.com/2015/12/14/nstc-begins-fasd-awareness-pilot-program-with-medic-alert**