Dear Friends:

The Des Moines Police Department, in collaboration with the Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Iowa Chapter, invites you to participate in a program to assist the police in identifying and locating citizens who may be lost or confused due to a medical condition. This program was initiated because of the department’s concerns about locating and identifying individuals who suffer from these medical conditions.

We recognize that time is a critical factor in safely locating missing persons, especially in dangerous weather conditions. Prompt dissemination of information about the missing person to the police and the public is essential. Providing the necessary information to the police in advance may help alleviate confusion that is often associated with reporting a missing person. The program is called Loved Ones Safe and Together (LOST). Instructions on how to participate are included on the next page.

The Des Moines Police Department is enthusiastic about this partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association, along with the families and caretakers of persons who are registered with our LOST Program. This program gives family members and caretakers some peace of mind in knowing that everything possible is being done to find their loved one if they should become lost. It is very beneficial to our officers to have immediate access to the information on the registration form, along with the photograph, as they begin to look for the lost person.

Please feel free to let other families who are affected by these types of diseases know about this program. Working together, we hope to minimize the length of time a person with a medical condition may be lost and distressed in this city.

Sincerely,

Dana Wingert
Chief of Police
INSTRUCTIONS
L.O.S.T. Program Participation

1. The Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Iowa Chapter, will mail a registration form to you upon request.
2. The form can also be accessed through the Des Moines Police Department website, https://www.dmgov.org/Departments/Police. Click on “Police Programs”, then at the bottom of the page, click on “L.O.S.T.” to access the application form. The form must be printed and completed. It cannot be completed online.
3. The completed form should be mailed to:
   Des Moines Police Department
   c/o LOST Program
   25 E. 1st Street
   Des Moines, Iowa  50309
4. If you need assistance, you may call our Detective Bureau at 515-283-4864 to speak with a Police Department representative.
5. Persons afflicted by medical conditions other than Alzheimer’s Disease or dementia and who may become confused or lost can also participate in the program by calling the Police Department at 515-283-4864.
6. The information provided on the registration form will be entered into a database at the Des Moines Police Department. We recommend a recent photograph be included with the registration, and this will also be entered into our database.
   - When the DMPD is notified of a missing person due to a medical condition, a police report may be initiated. The following may occur:
     - The information provided on the registration form, plus the photograph (if provided) may be immediately transmitted to officers on the street via their in-car computers.
     - This information may be distributed to local media outlets.
     - Officers encountering a lost or confused individual can cross check our database to locate a possible contact.
7. Updates to the registration form (change in contact information) are essential to the success of the program. Contact the DMPD at 515-283-4864 to make changes.
8. Please note that if a loved one becomes lost or missing, you must contact the appropriate law enforcement agency to complete a missing person report.