



Department of Police

75 South Van Brunt Street · Englewood, New Jersey 07631

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: April 5, 2022

SUBJECT: Special Needs Registry Program

The City of Englewood Police Department (EPD) is proud to announce the creation of a **Special Needs Registry Program** which will allow our officers to better serve our special needs residents.

The EPD is seeking voluntary emergency contact information for any City residents, of any age, that are affected by autism, dementia, Alzheimer's, bi-polar disorder, schizophrenia, or other illness, condition or "special need" that may cause them to become disoriented or impaired.

As the EPD interacts with our residents and responds to calls throughout our City, this information will aid in our response by helping us better understand who the person is prior to making contact. This prior knowledge will facilitate a better line of communication with the person, which will lead to a safer resolution for all involved. Additionally, in the unfortunate event that a person is reported missing, the basic information you provide is often the critical initial information we need to help locate any individual.

Once in place, residents will be able to go on to the City website and enter the basic pedigree information for their loved one (name, DOB, address, phone number, emergency contact info). You may also upload a photo of the individual to assist us as well. This information will go directly to the EPD and will be entered into our computer aided dispatch (CAD) system.

Beyond basic pedigree information, we hope that families will share specific information such as:

- Noise, sound, touch sensitivities
- Places the person frequents or feels most comfortable outside of home
- Topics of discussion that might put the individual at ease (favorite sports teams, past times, etc.)

The information provided will be treated with the utmost sensitivity and care. It will be entered into our CAD system and will be used for informational purposes only for officers responding to calls for service. The sharing of information with the EPD is provided voluntarily. Any and all information provided will remain confidential and secure and will not be shared with anyone outside of our sworn police personnel and public safety telecommunicators.

We hope that our residents consider this voluntary program as a worthwhile measure to enhance the safety and well-being of their loved ones.

If you have any questions about this program, or would like any further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Community Affairs Unit of the EPD at communityaffairs@englewoodpd.org.

Please go to the Police Department section of the City of Englewood website (cityofenglewood.org) for information on how to register.