



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AT YORK REGIONAL POLICE (YRP)

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OVERVIEW

- Purpose and Ask
- Definitions of a Vulnerable Person
- Overview of existing programs:
 - Vulnerable Persons Registry
 - Project Lifesaver
 - Vulnerable Persons ID Cards
 - Feedback
- Overview of new initiative: Vulnerable Person Decal
- Questions and Answers



PURPOSE AND ASK

To provide further awareness about Community Services programs available to residents with disabilities and to gather your feedback on what barriers or gaps may exist or what we can do differently.

To seek your input on our new initiative designed to assist individuals with communications and health care needs.

1. What barriers or gaps do we need to address?
2. What more can we do or what can we do differently?
3. What additional information would you like to know?



DEFINITION

Vulnerable Person: A person who is living with a cognitive, physical, intellectual/developmental disability or other condition which may place them at an increased risk of misadventure leading to injury or death and who may require assistance from emergency services.



VULNERABLE PERSON REGISTRY (VPR)



VULNERABLE PERSONS REGISTRY (VPR)

Allows an improved police response to vulnerable people who may require emergency assistance due to their health condition.

- It expedites the process of locating and assisting vulnerable residents or frequent visitors to **York Region** by making essential personal information readily available to responding officers.
- No cost



HOW DOES IT WORK?

Database used as an investigative tool to assist in gathering important information when an emergency arises.

In an emergency, VPR provides police access to helpful information: emergency contact, safety issues, detailed description (de-escalation strategies), and ways to communicate.

Registration: Online application on yrp.ca or connect with community partner (e.g. CHATS)

Updating: age dependent, re-submitting registration form



PROJECT LIFESAVER (PLS)



PROJECT LIFESAVER (PLS) PROGRAM



The Project Lifesaver program combines **radio technology** with a co-ordinated police response, to locate wandering and disoriented loved ones who have become lost and cannot find their way back home.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Participants wear a personalized wristband that emits a tracking signal
- Operational life span is approximately 60 days
- Wristband to be worn 24 hours per day
- **GPS vs Radio Frequency*
- Participants/Caregivers are responsible for paying a one time fee of \$399.00 USD (*approx. \$530.00 CAD*)*



VULNERABLE PERSON ID CARD



VULNERABLE PERSON ID CARD

The wallet sized card provides officers with quick access to critical information (e.g. name, language spoken, medical condition/allergies etc.) to vulnerable individuals in York Region. It is a “fillable tool” and has several bi-folds allowing for more details to be provided, in a convenient sized card.



YORK REGIONAL POLICE VULNERABLE PERSON IDENTITY CARD

Please be patient. I have special communication needs and may need help.

If I appear lost or distressed, please read this card to learn how to best communicate with me and reach my emergency contacts.

How do I communicate? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Interpreter
- ☐ Writing
- ☐ Sign language
- ☐ Lip reading
- ☐ Non-verbal
- ☐ Regular speech

The language I prefer to speak is:



HOW DOES IT WORK?

Emergency Contact Information

My emergency contact's name and phone number is:

.....

.....

My secondary contact's name and phone number is:

.....

.....

I have these special needs/health conditions:

.....

.....

I take these life-sustaining medications:

.....

.....

.....

When in distress I may behave in the following ways:

.....

.....

.....

.....

Here is some more information on how
you can help me:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



FEEDBACK

1. What barriers or gaps do we need to address?
2. What more can we do or what can we do differently?
3. What additional information would you like to know?



NEW INITIATIVE: VULNERABLE PERSON DECAL



NEW INITIATIVE: VULNERABLE PERSON DECAL

The proposal involves collaborating with our community partners who are experts on Autism and Dementia in an effort to leverage our shared experience working with the community to:

- a) Provide an easily recognizable and shared tool for assisting Vulnerable Persons (VP) when first responders come into contact with them
- b) Provides awareness that there is additional information that can be obtained (via dispatch) about the VP prior to getting engaged
- c) Provide strategies to communicate with someone who is in distress based on best practice tenets to communicate with vulnerable persons



THE PROPOSAL

What's the benefit?

Provides awareness that there is additional information that can be obtained (via dispatch) about the VP prior to getting engaged.

Phase One Partners: York Region Public Health, Autism Ontario, Alzheimer Society of York Region, Fire, Paramedics, and York Regional Police

Possible Phase Two Partners: *Hospitals, York Support Services Network (YSSN), Social Services, Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Deaf Blind Ontario Services, Ministry of Transportation, Central LHIN, etc.*



DISCUSSION

1. Do you think there should be a charge to the decal?
2. What other agencies would you suggest including as a possible phase 2 partner?



VARIOUS DECALS AVAILABLE



EMERGENCY ALERT

**Occupant with Autism:
MAY NOT RESPOND
TO VERBAL COMMANDS**

AutismONTARIO
www.autismontario.com



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Participants must have a cognitive, physical, intellectual or developmental disability or other condition which may place them at an increased risk of misadventure and contact with a first responder
- This may include participants who have a tendency to wander, experiences barriers to communication, or demonstrate unpredictable social response (e.g. aggressive nature/anxiety)
- Participant must be a registered VPR/PLS participant to receive the decal ([yrp.ca](http://event.yrp.ca/VPR/authorizationform.aspx) / <http://event.yrp.ca/VPR/authorizationform.aspx>)



THE VULNERABLE PERSON DECAL



TENTATIVE NEXT STEPS

- Finalize our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Disclaimer, and Communication Strategy
- Provide an educational tool for first responders
- Meeting with 1st phase planning committee to share roll out details (e.g. brochures, educational tool, and completed decal).
- Follow up meeting with 1st phase planning committee for a S.W.O.T analysis of the decal (March/April 2021) and expanding to include
- Include 2nd phase agencies (Summer/Fall 2021), make revisions if needed



FEEDBACK

1. Suggestions on how to promote the decal?
2. Is there any additional feedback?



THANK YOU

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