

OPS, MedicAlert join forces to help locate missing persons



By Avery Park

The Orangeville Police Service (OPS) and MedicAlert Foundation Canada have come together to ensure the well-being of people in our community with disabilities who may wander or get lost.

MedicAlert has been helping Canadians get the correct medical attention since 1961, and continues to be Canada's most trusted medical identification.

A new program, called MedicAlert Connect Protect, gives police officers the vital information on the missing people and how they can best protect them.

"We are pleased that through this partnership we can lead the way in increasing the safety of people living with Alzheimer's, dementia, a cognitive brain injury, or autism, and return them to their families as quick as possible," said Police Chief Wayne Kalinski.

The people that have subscribed for MedicAlert are relying on their services to make finding someone who is lost easier for everyone. "MedicAlert Connect Protect will safeguard Orangeville MedicAlert subscribers through the valuable MedicAlert Protection. In an emergency situation, the Orangeville Police Service will have access to vital information that will save valuable time," explains Robert Ridge, President and CEO of MedicAlert.

Now, the police have access to any subscriber's past wandering history, photo, identity, and other information that is linked to their medical IDs. These partnerships within the community help us all with the safety and well-being of those who may be less protected than others.

Stacy Daub, President and CEO of Headwaters Health Care Centre, welcomed the development. "Not only will this initiative enhance the safety of some of the most vulnerable members of our community, but it also helps our clinicians, caregivers and paramedics provide vital, lifesaving care when needed."