

This year Sister Cyndi Golden, WGM and Brother Tim Groves, WGP have selected a meaningful cause for Eastern Star members in Virginia to support – Project Lifesaver.

### What is Project Lifesaver?

Project Lifesaver is a 501c3 community based, public safety, nonprofit organization. They work directly with law enforcement, fire/rescue, and caregivers to protect, and when necessary, quickly locate, individuals with cognitive disorders who are prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering. The organization was founded in 1999 in Chesapeake, VA.

#### How does the program work?

The program is run at the municipality level by public safety agencies. When an agency decides to implement the program, Project Lifesaver International equips them with the necessary technology and training, which includes coursework on understanding cognitive conditions and their common behaviors.

The method relies on proven radio technology and specially trained search and rescue methods. Citizens enrolled in the Project Lifesaver Program wear a small transmitter on the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized frequency signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. The client's individualized frequency is then used to locate the position of the individual.

"Caring for someone with dementia is so hard.. I felt like I couldn't leave my husband's side. Project Lifesaver gave me incredible peace of mind. Because he had their tracking bracelet on, I knew that if something happened, I could make one phone call and my local law enforcement office would be there to help me find him. It didn't take his condition away, but I felt better, knowing he was safer."

Sister Sue Kidwell, Grand Electa 2024-2025 Hay Market Chapter No. 123

### Learn more at ProjectLifesaver.org



## ABOUT PROJECT LIFESAVER

Project Lifesaver is the premier search and rescue program operated internationally by public safety agencies and is strategically designed for "at risk" individuals who are prone to the lifethreatening behavior of wandering. The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children with the propensity to wander due to a cognitive condition.

## MORE THAN 4,300 LIVES SAVED!



# **HOW TO BECOME A LIFESAVER!**

## **INDIVIDUALS – DONATE TODAY!**

The easiest way to help is to make a donation - it's as simple as that. You can do this by mail or by giving your donation to one of our \*I'M A LIFES AVER! Cause Captains at any Official Visit or Grand Chapter gathering.

Your donation in any amount is greatly appreciated, but we do have special recognitions designed to make giving your donation more fun!

**\$1** – An individually wrapped Lifesaver to freshen your breath and remind you of your commitment to the cause.

**\$20** – A whole roll of Lifesavers and the knowledge you provided one wrist band to someone in need.

**\$100** – A special pin that shows you supported the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron's special project and helped save a life.

**\$500 or more** – The pin, plus your name listed on the Grand Chapter Website and in the 2025 directory.

# **CHAPTERS – BECOME A CAPTAIN FOR THE CAUSE!**

Virginia Eastern Star Chapters are encouraged to get involved by raising money for Project Lifesaver and by spreading the word about their mission. Here are some ideas of how to incorporate our Special Project into your chapter activities.

- Invite a representative from your local law enforcement agency participating in the program to come to your meeting and speak.

- Know someone who benefitted from the program? Invite them to a Chapter dinner and have them share their experience with your members.



- Work with a local Project Lifesaver agency to help spread the word to caregivers about the program.

- Purchase a bag of lifesavers to have at meetings to reward all those \$1 donations to the project.

-Make a chapter gift to the program. Special recognition will be provided to participating chapters.

## SEND DONATIONS TO:

Grand Secretary Grand Chapter of Virginia 14341 Justice Road, Suite B Midlothian, VA 23113 Make checks payable to VESPA with Project Lifesaver in the memo.

## FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

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