

# Protecting Your Loved Ones

This year, the Florida Legislature passed Section 937.041, Florida Statutes, to provide funding to the University of Florida Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (UF CARD) for the purchase of special personal devices. These wearable devices aid in search-and-rescue efforts. UF CARD is collaborating with the sheriff's offices of Alachua, Baker, Columbia, Hamilton, and Suwannee Counties to distribute the devices to eligible participants.



## Who is Eligible?

These devices will be provided at no cost to a person who meets all of the following criteria:

- ☑ resides in one of these counties: Alachua, Baker, Columbia, Hamilton, or Suwannee;
- ☑ has documentation of a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder;
- ☑ has wandered away or is at risk of wandering; and
- ☑ needs constant supervision and monitoring by a responsible adult, who can prevent wandering and can contact 911 in the event the individual is missing.

If you know of someone who meets these criteria, please have their legal guardian contact UF CARD at 352-273-0581 to register.

UF CARD will need signed release of information forms in order to share information with:

- Project Lifesaver™;
- the local sheriff's office, which will contact the family to set up an appointment for delivery of and instruction on Project Lifesaver™ equipment ; and
- the school district (as applicable) to promote safety in all settings.



Photo: Amber Vann / Suwannee Democrat

See FAQ's by searching "Project Leo" on our website, [www.card.ufl.edu](http://www.card.ufl.edu).