

Take Me Home is allows for the safe return home of those who may not be able to communicate vital information to law enforcement officers or first responders

“Devyn is known as a ‘runner’ in autistic terminology. ... There have been a half dozen times he has escaped from home and been returned to me due to the “Take Me Home” program. ... All I have to do during these calls is to mention his name and the fact that he is part of this program. The information they have on him is immediately broadcast and the search is on. What really has me sold on the program happened in August of 2007.

While working in the garage one day and thinking Devyn was playing in the fenced in yard he happened to climb the fence and go for one of his runs. After about 15 minutes I realized I had not seen or heard him for a while. After checking the yard and house I called 911. As soon as I mentioned his name the operator mentioned that they already had him and he was on his way back home. Without the “Take Me Home” program they would have had no idea who he was as he is not verbal, much less where he lived.

Due to this program I continue to keep a close watch on him but feel comfortable in the fact that if he does manage to escape the city and county police will know who he is along with a description and where he lives. This is a program that all parents of special needs children should take advantage of.”

Devyn’s dad
a.k.a. John Brown
Pensacola, FL

What is Take Me Home?

The Take Me Home system is a database developed by the Pensacola Police Department of persons who may need special assistance if they are alone. The system includes a current digital picture, demographic information and caregiver contacts. If a person in the Take Me Home system is encountered by a Police Officer, the officer can search the database by his or her name or by the person’s description to locate the person’s Take Me Home enrollment record. With the information at hand the officer can appropriately assist the person.

A family member contacts the police department and an officer will arrange to collect a digital photo, description of height, weight and other demographic info, as well as emergency contact information.



How does it work?



This information is placed on a database that can be accessed in cruisers or back at the station. If officers find someone who can’t communicate where he or she lives, they can search the database by description and return the person to their loved ones. The system also works in reverse - if a loved one goes missing, their picture and description is immediately available.

Take Me Home is, of course, voluntary for citizens that participate, and is available to all public service agencies FREE of charge.

Jimmy Donohoe, officer-in-charge of the Pensacola, Fla. Police Department's Special Projects Unit, spearheaded the Take Me Home program. After attending a meeting of the Autism Society of the Panhandle in August 2003, Officer Donohoe realized law enforcement officers needed to do what they could to help who those who may have strayed from their familiar environments and might not be able to communicate who they were or where they were from. Take Me Home was developed in coop-



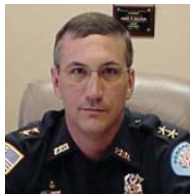
Sergeant Jimmy Donohoe



The Pensacola Police Department is committed to providing professional, efficient and courteous service to the public. Officers shall strive to improve the quality of life by enforcing laws in a fair and impartial manner while encouraging a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust with the public. Officers and support staff shall have respect for the dignity and rights of all people.



ASA began the Safe and Sound initiative in 2005 to provide much-needed resources to the autism community on topics such as general safety, emergency preparedness and prevention, and risk management. Safe and Sound works to develop information and strategies that are beneficial to individuals on the spectrum, their families and the professionals who work with them, as well as to provide information and training on autism to first responders.



Pensacola Chief John Mathis

eration with law enforcement software company Consolidated Technology Solutions and with the support of Pensacola Police Chief John Mathis. It is distributed in conjunction with the Autism Society of America's Safe and Sound program.

This program is FREE to all public service agencies. Contact Sgt. Jimmy Donohoe about Take Me Home today at jdonohoe@cityofpensacola.com

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Bring peace of mind to local caregivers ...

Establish Take Me Home in your police department today!

Help us keep your loved ones safe

Learn more about how to get this FREE program in your area. Visit www.pensacolapolice.com.

