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*We Rage, We Weep Alzheimer Foundation*

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***WANDERING! A Caregiver's worst Nightmare.***

We Rage, We Weep Alzheimer Foundation launches  
***Project Lifesaver of Greater Victoria***

### **Media Release**

**January 18, 2008**

For Immediate Release

We Rage, We Weep Alzheimer Foundation launches its first program in Victoria's Capital Regional District (CRD). Project Lifesaver is a wander location program for seniors with Alzheimer Disease (AD) or related dementia. A 3-day training is set to take place January 26-28 at the Search & Rescue Society of BC offices on Burnside Rd. Tommy Carter, Chief of Training for Project Lifesaver International in Chesapeake, Virginia, will conduct instruction.

Training will focus on wandering characteristics, locating strategies and technical use of the electronic tracking devices including the receiver worn by the client who is a flight risk. "Wandering is the most life-threatening behaviour associated with people who have AD or related dementia", states Tommy Carter. "Approximately 59% of persons with dementia wander. Of those 59%, 72% will do so repeatedly. The survival rate of a person with cognitive impairment, in good physical condition, that is missing up to 24 hours is 50%. After 24 hours, they will usually be severely injured or dead."

Project Lifesaver is a public safety program integrating law enforcement, search and rescue, people with AD or related dementia and their caregivers that uses electronic tracking equipment to locate citizens who wander. Operating within 600 communities throughout North America with 8,000-10,000 active users, over 1500 searches have been performed, with a 100% success rate and an average find time less than 30 minutes. "This program has proven to save lives and enables those conducting the search to save time, money and staffing required to find missing people in the community", says Tommy Carter.

Greater Victoria is the first BC community to offer Project Lifesaver. Locator Systems, a local company and member of ViaTEC, manufactures the technology in Victoria. Although location equipment has been employed elsewhere for this purpose it is a first in Victoria despite the large senior demographic.

Contact We Rage, We Weep Alzheimer Foundation at (250) 920-9573 for details on how to sign up a family member for Project Lifesaver. Or visit [www.werageweweeep.com](http://www.werageweweeep.com) and download the Caregiver Application Form if you require financial assistance. We Rage, We Weep Alzheimer Foundation appreciates the support of our community in raising funds so that those not able to pay the fees associated with Project Lifesaver may still receive this valuable service. To donate visit [www.werageweweeep.com](http://www.werageweweeep.com) and click '**donate now**'.

### **About We Rage, We Weep Alzheimer Foundation**

A Canadian Registered Charity, the Foundation's mission is to ensure no caregiver feels alone, isolated or without adequate financial resources by supplying grant funding to caregivers who experience significant economic hardship in their care giving role. Monetary assistance may be given for any necessary service or supply not currently available through statutory funding that compliments existing community programs. Assistance will always be provided by or through qualified service providers

### **About Project Lifesaver International**

Project Lifesaver International is a US 501c Non-profit organization with a mandate to provide training and equipment to first responders, search and rescue and care organizations for starting the Project Lifesaver program in their community. [www.projectlifesaver.org](http://www.projectlifesaver.org)

### **Project Lifesaver of Greater Victoria Training Information**

When: January 26-28

Where: Search & Rescue Society of BC offices, Burnside Rd.

Interviews are available with Tommy Carter Saturday, January 26, 2008 after 2pm

Contact: Marjorie Moulton, Executive Director, We Rage, We Weep Alzheimer Foundation re: interviews

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