PERSONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNITS – OCEAN COUNTY

ADT HOME HEALTH SECURITY SERVICES

32100 US Hwy. 19 No., Palm Harbor, FL 34684

Contact: Paul McGraw 1.877.456.1787 Ext.4030

ADVANCED ALERT, LLC

93 Creek Drive, Millsboro, DE 19966

Contact: Ron Finelli

1.800.814.8313

ALERT ONE/RESPONSE LINK

1000 Commerce Park Dr. Suite 300 Williamsport, PA 1.800.693.5433

AMERICAN RED CROSS, JERSEY COAST CHAPTER-LIFELINE

1540 West Park Avenue, P.O. Box 131, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724-0131

Contact: Carol Cohen 1.732.493.9100 Ext.1232

OCEAN SECURITY

131 Laurel Avenue #1, Island Heights, NJ 08732

Contact: Eileen 732.270.1784

CONNECT AMERICA MEDICAL ALERT

One Belmont ave. Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 Suite 1205

Contact: Val Gallagher

1.856.904.7785

FAMILY CARE MEDICAL ALARMS FOR SENIORS

P.O. Box 81, Williams Port PA 17703

Customer Service

1.877.893.2140

FIRST STEP DEVELOPMENT GROUP/ DBA ALERT 911

455 Ne 5th Ave Suite. D 304, Delray Florida

Contact: Julia Smart

1.800.372.0072

HELP ALERT LLC.

P.O. Box 443, Forked River, NJ 08731

Contact: Tom Crespo 1.609.693.7757 or 1.855.552.5378

LIFE STATION, INC.

2 Stahuber Avenue, Union, NJ 07083 1.800.446.3300 Ext.2

LINK TO LIFE

27475 MeadowBrook Road, Novi, MI 48377 Contact: Jaime Jones 1-855-289-1072

M D RESPIRATORY SERVICES

6 West 21st St., Bayonne, NJ 07002 Contact: Aaron 1.201.823.3100

MED COPE AMERICA

222 West Lancaster Avenue, Paoli, PA 19301 Contact: Jerry Smith

1.800.645.2060 Ext. 700 Fax: 1.610.896.7233

PHONE-4-HELP

386 North Brookfield St., Vineland, NJ 08362 Contact: Tim or Bill Moore 1.800.842.0074 Fax 1.856.825.4623

RIGHT AT HOME

522 Brick Blvd., Ste. 101, Brick, NJ 08723 Contact: Darlene Bosco 1.732.451.0120

VITAL LIMK

1255 Mill Rd, Jenkintown, PA 19046 1.800.338.84.25 mark@avitallink.com

VNA HEALTH GROUP

176 Riverside Ave, Red Bank, NJ 07701 PRS 1-800-215-4204 Website www.vnahg.org

Original: 3/26/14CG, 3/31/15CG CG7/20/16 CY 3/27/18 cg,9/12/18 rev.4/2019 CG



Personal Emergency Response Systems: Health Information for Older People

I have a lot of health problems, and I live alone. I'm worried about a health emergency when no one is around. Would a personal emergency response system be useful?

Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS), also known as Medical Emergency Response Systems, let you call for help in an emergency by pushing a button. A PERS has three components: a small radio transmitter, a console connected to your telephone, and an emergency response center that monitors calls.

Transmitters are light-weight, battery-powered devices. You can wear one around your neck, on a wrist band, on a belt, or in your pocket. When you need help, you press the transmitter's help button, which sends a signal to the console. The console automatically dials one or more emergency telephone numbers. Most PERS are programmed to telephone an emergency response center. The center will try to find out the nature of your emergency. They also may review your medical history and check who should be notified.

You can purchase, rent, or lease a PERS. Keep in mind that Medicare, Medicaid, and most insurance companies typically don't pay for the equipment, and the few that pay require a doctor's recommendation. Some hospitals and social service agencies may subsidize the device for low-income users. If you buy a PERS, expect to pay an installation fee and a monthly monitoring charge. Rentals are available through national manufacturers, local distributors, hospitals, and social service agencies, and fees often include the monitoring service. Read the contract carefully before you sign, and make note of extra charges, like cancellation fees.

Your local Area Agency on Aging may be able to tell you what systems are available in your area. See if friends, neighbors, or relatives have recommendations. When you have a list of agencies you're considering, check with your local consumer protection agency, state Attorney General, and Better Business Bureau to see if any complaints have been filed against them. Questions you can ask a PERS company include:

- Is the monitoring center open 24/7? What kind of training do staff receive?
- What's the average response time, and who gets alerted?
- Will I be able to use the same system with other response centers if I move? What if I move to another city or state?
- What's your repair policy? What happens if I need a replacement?

What are the initial costs? What costs are ongoing? What kind of services and features will I get?

Your options when it comes to PERS may depend on where you live. Try looking up your local Area Agency on Aging at <u>eldercare.gov</u> (<u>http://www.eldercare.gov/</u>), and ask them about your options.

Who Cares About Personal Emergency Response Systems?

FTC (https://www.ftc.gov/health) 1-877-382-4357 (TTY: 1-866-653-4261)

<u>Your Area Agency on Aging (http://www.eldercare.gov)</u> 1-800-677-1116

(TRS: 1-800-677-1116)

Checking Out a PERS Company

Better Business Bureau (http://bbb.org)

Your state Attorney General (http://naag.org)

Your local consumer protection agency (http://consumeraction.gov/)

October 2008

Related Items

- <u>Health Information for Older People (https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0017-health-information-older-people)</u>
- <u>Hiring Caregivers: Health Information for Older People (https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0312-hiring-caregivers-health-information-older-people)</u>
- Generic Drugs and Low-Cost Prescriptions (https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0063-genericdrugs-and-low-cost-prescriptions)
- Medicare Part D Solicitations (https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0125-medicare-part-d-solicitations)