



## Personal Emergency Response System (PERS Units)

Listed below is information on providers of personal emergency response systems available to individuals in the Broome County Area.

### Common Features of PERS providers:

- Push button can be worn around the neck or on the wrist
- Access to a dispatcher 24 hours a day
- One-time installation or activation fee
- Monthly service charge on the unit that is installed or activated
- A list of emergency contacts (most providers prefer having a list of names to work from)
- In the event of an emergency, the dispatcher will try to contact one of the people listed as an emergency contact. If no one is available, then help is automatically sent to the home.

### Typical Price Range-Installation/Activation Fee and Monthly Charge:

The “Regional PERS Providers” (see next page) have someone who will actually install the PERS unit for you and will charge an installation fee. The PERS providers that are listed under the “Additional Providers” heading will *send* you their unit and most will charge you an *activation* fee once you have the unit set up and ready to use. With the Additional Providers, if you are not able to install the unit yourself, some providers can arrange for a technician to do that for you but you will be charged a fee for that service. Installation/activation fees typically range from around \$35 to \$280. The monthly monitoring fee ranges from \$0/month to \$80/month depending on the PERS provider you choose, and the type of unit. The standard two-way voice activated unit is the least expensive option. The more costly options include medication reminders/dispensers and auto alert sensors.

Another option is a mobile medical alert system with GPS technology often called a Mobile Personal Emergency Response System (MPERS). It could be a cellphone or something you can attach to your keychain or carry with you so that no matter where you are, you have instant connection to certified response agents. These devices utilize GPS and/or cellular technology, allowing seniors to be on the go and still be safely monitored. You can find these devices at Walmart or Kmart.

**Individuals who are eligible for the Medicaid program may be able to access a PERS unit through Medicaid.** Contact CASA at 778-2420 for more information.

**Burglar Alarm Systems:** The Verizon Yellow Pages lists home security businesses that carry PERS units. These units are located under the heading, “*Burglar Alarm Systems*”. Maximum Security and ADT are examples of two companies that offer PERS units.

**The Internet:** The internet provides consumers with information on PERS units that can be ordered online. PERS units and topic related information can be obtained by going to Google and typing in “*Emergency Response Systems*”

## Regional PERS Providers

| <u>Provider</u>             | <u>Address &amp; Contact #</u>                                                         | <u>Additional Information</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lifelink Emergency Response | Lourdes Hospital<br>169 Riverside Drive<br>Binghamton, NY 13905-4198<br>(607) 798-5934 | Office Hours M-F 8:00-4:45                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Project HEAR                | UHS Home Care<br>601 Riverside Drive<br>Johnson City, NY 13790<br>(607) 763-8952       | Office Hours: M-F 8:30-4:45<br>* Project HEAR provides a reduced rate on the monthly rental fee to consumers who cite the Broome County Office for Aging as their referral source when they call.<br>* There is no cost to replace a lost PERS unit and their dispatcher delivers it to the home. |
| Guthrie Home Care/Lifeline  | 421 T593<br>Towanda, PA 18848-9707<br>1-800-327-0736                                   | Office Hours: M-F 8-4:30                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## Additional PERS Providers

| <u>Provider</u>                             | <u>Address &amp; Contact #</u>                                           | <u>Additional Information</u>                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LifeFone<br>*offer GPS enabled unit         | 16 Yellowstone Ave<br>White Plains, NY 10607<br>(844) 253-7939           | Office Hours: M-F 9-5                                                                                                                                                             |
| Philips Lifeline<br>*offer GPS enabled unit | 111 Lawrence St.<br>Framingham, MA 01702-8156<br>1-800-242-1306 ext 4575 | Office Hours: M-F 7-10PM<br>& Sat-Sun 7-5PM<br>* Philips Lifeline will waive the activation fee to consumers who cite the Broome County Office for Aging as your referral source. |
| CST Link to Life<br>*offer GPS enabled unit | 27475 Meadowbrook Road<br>Novi, MI 48377<br>(855) 427-8585               | Office Hours: M-F 9-5<br>* For possible discounts on services cite the Broome County Office for aging as a referral source when you call.                                         |
| Life Alarm                                  | 4210 Columbia Rd, 14B<br>Matinez, GA 30907<br>1-800-780-5433             | Office Hours: M-F 9-6                                                                                                                                                             |

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