



## JOHNSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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# C.A.R.E. PROGRAM

The Johnston Police Department has developed a local identification program for citizens who suffer from some form of physical or mental condition that may impair their ability to effectively communicate with a police officer or concerned citizen during those times when they have become separated from a caregiver or loved one. The Johnston program is called C.A.R.E. which stands for "Community Assistance in Reuniting Everyone" and is based off of a similar program currently in operation with the Des Moines Police Department.

Occasionally the Johnston Police Department will come into contact with a disabled individual who is unable to effectively communicate with the officers due to a physical and/or mental impairment. The C.A.R.E. program offers residents a proactive approach in registering a disabled loved one with the police department so in the event that they become separated from their family or care provider, officers can quickly get them identified and safely reunited.

There is no cost or age restriction to participate in the program. To enroll, caregivers simply need to contact the Johnston Police Department and complete an information form that will provide law enforcement with key information that will assist officers in locating and identifying the registered individual. The information along with a current photograph of the individual will then be entered into the department's database that officers can access in times of need.

If you have questions about the CARE program or would like to register a disabled or impaired child or adult please contact Lt. Lynn Aswegan at 515-252-1363 or at [laswegan@police.ci.johnston.ia.us](mailto:laswegan@police.ci.johnston.ia.us)