



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

MEMORANDUM

OCDD-P-21-040
OCDD-SC-21-019
OCDD-R-21-009

DATE: October 20, 2021

TO: All OCDD Stakeholders

FROM: Julie Foster Hagan, Assistant Secretary *Julia Foster Hagan*
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

SUBJECT: Legislators Want Your Opinion: Finding Children with Disabilities in Emergencies

Even though families do their best to keep them safe, some children with disabilities are at the greatest risk of wandering (or running off) and not being able to get back home. The Louisiana legislature has asked the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) to get information about technology solutions to address wandering concerns from the people who know the most about the problem—families of children with disabilities. Technology (like a cell phone app or small object that gives off electronic signals) can be used by families to find a child in an emergency, and may help prevent a child from being missing. Using this technology would be **strictly voluntary**.

While the survey questions focus on children, adults with disabilities also face these challenges and we encourage everyone facing these challenges to fill out the survey. Your answers to this brief, voluntary (about 10-15 minutes) survey will help us give legislators information they need to represent you better. The questions do not ask for any information that can identify you or your children.

If you would like to take the survey click on the secure link at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WFMX9F8>. The survey will close on **November 12, 2021**.

If you have questions about this survey, please email OCDD at OCDDInfo@la.gov, please put *GPS Survey* in the subject line. If you are not able to complete the survey online but would still like to participate, please call 225-342-9526.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

NOTE: Neither this memorandum, nor the survey questions, are an endorsement or an official position of the Louisiana Department of Health.