



# Broome County Office for Aging

*...bringing seniors and services together*

## PERSONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEMS a/k/a (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 three local PERS providers that are listed below will actually install their unit for you. The additional providers listed, will send you their unit and will charge you an *activation* fee once you have the unit set up and ready to use. This one time fee can range from \$30 to \$100. Monthly service rates typically range from \$30/month to \$80/month depending on the response provider you choose, and the type of unit. Most units are two-way voice activated, although a few providers still offer the non-voice unit which is the least expensive option. The more costly units are the ones that provide additional services such as medication reminders and dispensers; activity monitors; and periodic check-in calls.

**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.

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## **Local PERS providers:**

### **Interim Health Care-Link to Life**

Interim Health Care

38 Front St., Ste. D

Binghamton, NY 13905

Contact: Tracy Smith-Office hours 8-4:30

(607) 722-6461 or 800-479- 6461

*(A nurse installs the unit. Installation fee is waived if consumer indicates an interest in aide service or already has an aide through Interim-this includes EISEP clients)*

### **Life Link**

Lourdes Hospital

169 Riverside Drive

Binghamton, NY 13905-4198

Contact: Donna Guilfoyle

Office hours: M-F 8-4:30

(607) 798-5934

### **Project HEAR**

Twin Tier Home Health Care

4401 Vestal Parkway East

Vestal, NY 13850

Contact: Suzanne Nedlik

Office hours-M-F 8:30-4:45

(607) 763-8952

*(Project HEAR provides a reduced rate on the installation and monthly rental fee to consumers who site the Broome County Office for Aging as their referral source when they call.)*

## **Additional PERS Providers:**

### **Life Alarm**

114 Shartom Drive

Augusta, GA 30907

Office hours: M-F 9-8

800-780-5433

### **LifeFone**

16 Yellowstone Ave

White Plains, NY 10607

Office hours: M-F 9-5

800-882-2280

**Philips Lifeline**

111 Lawrence St.

Framingham, MA 01702-8156

Office hours: M-F 7:00-10PM & Sat-Sun 7-5PM

800-594-0847

**Link to Life**

297 North St.

Pittsfield, MA 01201

Office hours: M-F 9-5

800-338-4176

*(Link to Life provides a reduced rate on the installation and monthly rental fee to consumers who site the Broome County Office for Aging as their referral source when they call.)*

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