CRPD is developing a voluntary registration program that will provide law enforcement with identifying information and cues to aid in assisting persons with developmental disabilities.

Individuals with Autism and other disabilities may not be able to identify themselves, respond appropriately or provide emergency contact information and this program is intended to provide an avenue to access information.
The Autism and Developmental Disabilities voluntary registration program is intended for:

- Individuals who may be unable to respond appropriately or identify themselves to law enforcement
- Children who wander or elope as a symptom of Autism or other developmental disabilities
- Individuals who are non-verbal or unable to communicate effectively

The program consists of a 2 page form that a parent/guardian can fill out and submit to the police station in person, by mail or submit electronically via email. This form must be updated annually.

The form is currently available on the web at www.cedar-rapids.org/police or at the main station at 505 1st St. SW

Email: CRPDAADD@cedar-rapids.org

Call: 319-286-5439

The mission of the Cedar Rapids Police Department is to actively involve everyone in a team effort to serve, protect, and prevent crime and disorder by training, educating, informing, and involving ALL in order to provide a safe and secure community in an effective and efficient manner.

In order to fulfill this mission we must be able to:

- Identify the needs of the situation
- Evaluate the best course of action
- Safely resolve the situation at hand

We believe this program will assist us in helping Cedar Rapids citizens with special needs be safe and get the proper assistance as needed.

Recommendations to Assist those with special needs in dealings with the police:

- Make sure they know the police are here to help them
- Take your child to the police station and introduce them to an officer in uniform and show them police cars
- Teach children to properly contact 911
- For non-verbal children ensure they have some sort of identification on their person
- Explain that they should NEVER touch an officers weapon
- Explain to them they should ALWAYS keep their hands where they are visible
- If an officer wants to interview them tell them to ask for a guardian to be present
- Teach them to explain to officers what they are sensitive to such as touch or sound
- Provide Dispatch with information to assist officers in helping your child
- Notify neighbors of your child’s needs