

Dear Neighbor

We have a child with autism/special needs. About half of children with autism/special needs have a tendency to wander from a safe environment.

We watch our child very carefully, but sometimes he/she may suddenly wander away from a safe environment.

Our child's name is \_\_\_\_\_. He/She is \_\_\_\_\_ years old as of today, \_\_\_\_\_. He/She is \_\_\_\_\_ tall and weighs about \_\_\_\_\_ pounds. He/She usually wears\_\_\_\_\_.

**What to Do?**

We kindly ask if you see our child alone, please stay with him/her and immediately call \_\_\_\_\_. We are probably already looking for him/her. Please also dial 911 and tell them that you found our child.

Our child, \_\_\_\_\_, does not speak very well and does not understand dangerous situations. He/She might walk into the street without looking. He/She may be attracted to bodies of water like lakes, ponds, or swimming pools and could drown. He/She might walk in your house or yard if a door or gate is open. He/She will become lost very easily and not know he/she is lost. If you ask our child a question, he/she may not answer.

Our child may appear to be deaf. However, our child can hear. He/She may not react to things that he/she hears or sees or respond to questions that are asked.

Our child sometimes has outbursts where he/she might scream or shake his/her hands or act in unusual ways. Please don't misinterpret any of these behaviors. He/She does not intend to hurt anyone. If you see our child and he/she is alone, please stay with him/her and call us, then dial 911 right away.

We have included a recent picture of our child.

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone)