Gatekeeper Program

The Gatekeeper Program is an innovative partnership that respects and values the older members of this community. Senior citizens can count on familiar figures in their own neighborhoods to watch out for them and take prompt action when danger signs appear. With a trained Gatekeeper nearby, help is just a phone call away.

For more information about the Gatekeeper Program, call:
(609) 823-1850

A Program of CONTACT Cape-Atlantic
9500 Ventnor Ave., Bldg. 2
Margate, NJ 08402
(609) 823-1850, (609) 463-4564
contact-c-a@comcast.net
www.contactcapeatlantic.org

Do You Need Help?

CONTACT Cape-Atlantic
Gatekeeper Program

listening
observing
caring for the community

(609) 823-1850
Atlantic County
(609) 463-4564
Cape May County
Gatekeepers to the rescue

The **Gatekeeper Program** was created to make sure that every older person has a network of trained community representatives looking out for them on a regular basis.

Gatekeepers are public service and utility company employees, postal workers, newspaper carriers, police officers and every day citizens who are trained to recognize danger signs indicating an elderly person is at risk. When a problem is suspected, Gatekeepers will call CONTACT.

The Gatekeeper staff contacts the elderly person to determine whether there is cause for concern. The situation is assessed and referrals are made to vital services such as home delivered meals, medical care, homemaker services, transportation and financial assistance.

Many senior citizens are unaware of the resources available at low or no cost to them. The **Gatekeeper Program** opens the door to services that may be the determining factor in maintaining an independent lifestyle.

How the Gatekeeper Program Works

**Danger signs that Gatekeepers look for:**

**HOME**
- House in need of repair
- Yard overgrown, untended
- Mail or newspaper uncollected

**PHYSICAL CONDITION**
- Difficulties with seeing, hearing, speaking
- Limited mobility

**EMOTIONAL WELL BEING**
- Confused, disoriented or forgetful
- Nervous or Fearful
- Hostile or agitated

**ECONOMIC SITUATION**
- Not enough money for food or medication
- Unable to pay bills

**SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**
- Lives alone
- Appears isolated
- No contact with family or neighbors

1. Gatekeepers contact the Gatekeeper Line: *(609) 823-1850*
2. Identify yourself as a Gatekeeper. You will need to provide your name, organization and phone number.
3. Gatekeepers provide detailed information about the elderly person: name, address, phone number or contact person.
4. Gatekeepers provide details about the situation:
   - Observations of living conditions and needs
   - Comments made by the elderly person
   - Physical impairments such as limited hearing or vision, confusion, other disabilities.

CONTACT Cape-Atlantic will update Gatekeeper on referral if requested.

**How Can You Help?**

If you know an elderly person who needs assistance or are interested in becoming a Gatekeeper, please call:

***(609) 823-1850***

The Gatekeeper Program is funded by United Way of Atlantic County, Ocean City Home Charitable Fund and donations from the general public.

*A donation is greatly appreciated.*