

# Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on MISSING CHILDREN & MISSING ENDANGERED ADULTS

**Quarterly Directory** 

**June 2022** 

## **Autism and wandering**

#### Water, trains and traffic prove dangerous grounds

Being a kid in Indiana in the summertime is special. In a climate that allows a limited window of opportunity for outdoor water play, the summer months bring the sounds of laughter and delight as kids splash and swim in lakes, community pools, backyard ponds, even rivers and streams.

But for the parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), it can increase the fears they face all year long. Those diagnosed with ASD are often drawn to water or other hazards like road traffic and trains. Wandering off can be a death sentence to a child who happens upon a flowing river, retention pond or busy highway.

Organizations like <u>Project Lifesaver</u> and the <u>National Center for Missing and Exploited</u> <u>Children</u> help law enforcement agencies and families understand steps to take to lessen the dangers of wandering and increase the likelihood of a safe recovery.

The following page highlights information and statistics to keep you informed of ways to be prepared.

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#### **OUR PURPOSE**

To provide healthcare and educational communities resources to aide in the recovery of unidentified or missing persons. There are over 1,000 missing persons in Indiana's Law Enforcement database. Together with hospitals, Vital Records, State Department of Health, Family and Social Services, and other agencies, we can greatly reduce the number of missing persons in Indiana.





From the 'Net: Autism and wandering

### Autism Spectrum Disorder

By the numbers\*

In 2021, **286** children on the autism spectrum were reported missing to NCMEC. **67%** were recovered within one week.

Our latest 10-year analysis indicates a **98%** recovery rate for children on the autism spectrum when NCMEC is engaged.

Drowning deaths are a major concern for children on the autism spectrum. Our 10-year analysis showed that of accidental deaths, **84%** were drownings.



The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children published this video in 2015 highlighting what you can do to help a lost child with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
For more information visit missingkids.org/theissues/autism.

\*Source: missingkids.org

#### **Risk Factors\***

Children on the autism spectrum may exhibit behavioral characteristics that threaten their safety such as:

- Attractions to bodies of water, roadways/highways, trains, fire trucks, or traffic signals
- Being non-speaking/nonverbal or unable to respond to searchers when their name is called
- Experiencing sensory/stimuli overload and bolting from their environment
- Heightened risk for exploitation because of their disability

#### Get Involved: CyberTipline

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) <u>CyberTipline</u> is the nation's centralized reporting system for the online exploitation of children. The public and electronic service providers can make reports of suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, extra-familial child sexual molestation, child pornography, child sex tourism, child sex trafficking, unsolicited obscene materials sent to a child, misleading domain names, and misleading words or digital images on the internet.

NCMEC staff review each tip and work to find a potential location for the incident reported so that it may be made available to the appropriate law-enforcement agency for possible investigation. We also use the information from our CyberTipline reports to help shape our prevention and safety messages.

If you know of a child being sexually exploited online, report it at <a href="CyberTipline.org">CyberTipline.org</a> or 1-800-THE-LOST.



#### Report It

If you think you have seen a missing child, or suspect a child may be sexually exploited, contact the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children 24-hours a day, 7 days a week

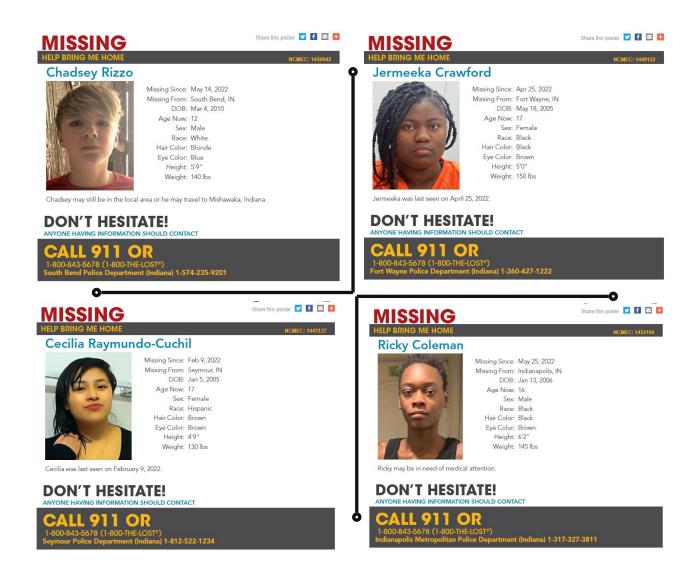
Report Child sexual exploitation

Use the CyberTipline to report child sexual exploitation

Make a Cyberlink Report >>

# Missing Persons Posters

For more Indiana Missing Persons posters, go to missingkids.org.



#### **Missing Persons Bulletin**

Information for the Children above is accurate from the time of publication.

Please check the Missing Persons Bulletin for up to date listings of Indiana Missing Persons.

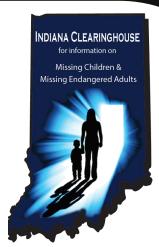
https://www.in.gov/isp/3187.htm

#### Indiana Clearinghouse

#### for Information on MISSING CHILDREN & MISSING ENDANGERED ADULTS

Address: 100 N. Senate Ave. N340 Indianapolis, IN 46204 Phone: 800-831-8953

Email: missingchildren@isp.in.gov Website: www.in.gov/isp/2333.htm



#### **Helpful Resources / Links**

#### **Indiana State Police**

in.gov/isp/3187.htm

The Missing Person Bulletin is a valuable resource available for you to check and confirm if a person is identified as missing in the State of Indiana. The bulletin is updated daily Monday through Friday with information from the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Indiana Data and Communication System (IDACS). Always check the date at the bottom of the page to confirm when the bulletin was last updated. If there is any doubt, feel free to call the Clearinghouse at 800-831-8953.

#### **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)**

1-800-843-5678 or missingkids.org

The mission of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is to help find missing children, reduce child sexual exploitation, and prevent child victimization. They operate a 24/7 national hotline (1-800-THE-LOST) for tips and reports related to missing and sexually exploited children, create and distribute missing child posters, redistribute AMBER Alerts, operate the CyberTipline for child sexual exploitation, help locate victims of child sex trafficking, assist law enforcement with tracking non-compliant sex offenders, provide crisis intervention and counseling referrals, and ensure that victims of child sex trafficking have access to the recovery services and support they need.

#### **National Runaway Safeline**

1-800-RUNAWAY or 1800runaway.org

The mission of the National Runaway Safeline is to help keep America's runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth safe and off the streets. The 1-800-RUNAWAY hotline and 1800RUNAWAY.org online crises services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year throughout the United States and its territories, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam.

#### National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs)

1-855-626-7600 or namus.gov

NamUs is a national information clearinghouse and resource center for missing, unidentified, and unclaimed person cases across the United States. Funded and administered by the National Institute of Justice and managed through a cooperative agreement with the UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas, all NamUs resources are provided at no cost to law enforcement, medical examiners, coroners, allied forensic professionals, and family members of missing persons.

#### Who we are



The Indiana General Assembly established the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children and Missing Endangered Adults in 2009. The Clearinghouse is intended to serve as the state central repository for all information on missing children and missing endangered adults from Indiana or believed to be in Indiana. The program is designed to collect, store, and disseminate information on missing children and missing and endangered adults. The Clearinghouse provides liaison among citizens, private organizations, and law enforcement agencies regarding missing children information.