
KEEPING INDEPENDENT

It's a fact that more older adults are living in their homes longer and want to remain independent.

WHAT IS KISS?



The KISS program is a *free* telephone reassurance program for older adults who live independently and want to feel safer and more secure. No one likes to think of the consequences if someone should fall and not be able to contact anyone. Or, worse yet, not be found for a few days. What would happen to your pet if you were incapacitated? Unfortunately, these events happen more than we like to think or hear about. The KISS program volunteers help eliminate some of these fears and dangers that living independently entail.

By joining the KISS Program, you know that within 24 hours weekdays, someone will come to your aid.

SENIORS

HOW DOES KISS WORK?

Participants are provided with a telephone number to call Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and Noon. Those that cannot call the office because of limited calls, disabilities, dementia, etc. will be called. Special arrangements may be made for participants that need weekend coverage. The call lets the KISS volunteers know that everything is okay. If any participant fails to call or not answer the phone, it alerts the KISS volunteers that there may be a problem.

Steps are then taken to contact that person to determine if there is a problem. If the person cannot be contacted further steps are taken, including verifying that the person's phone is working. If contact still cannot be made, one or more designated contact people (usually a neighbor, friend or relative) are notified and asked to check on the situation. If that fails, the local law enforcement agency is asked to investigate.

SAFE (KISS)

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

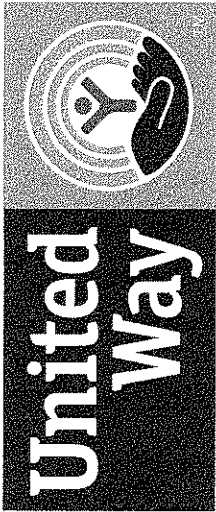
You are eligible if you are:

- a Genesee, Lapeer, Shiawassee county resident
- age 62 or older
- willing to notify the KISS Office when you will be away from home

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE KISS PROGRAM...

- That you must live alone (couples are on the program in case something should happen to the care giver)
- That you must be homebound in your home.
- That you cannot call in before 8:00 a.m. (the KISS program has an answering machine for people to leave messages that they are okay)

855-561-5477



The KISS program is funded in part by grants from United Way.



The KISS program is sponsored by the VAAA, a program that assists people 62 and older.

For more information on KISS programs call (855) 561-5477.

Or Write:


KISS PROGRAM

Valley Area Agency on Aging
225 E. Fifth Street, Suite 200
Flint, Michigan 48502



KISS
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