

Serving and Protecting: How Montgomery Police are trained to ensure the safety of our Special Needs Community



Tuesday, April 30, 2019 7:00-9:00 pm
At Senior Center in Otto Kaufman Community Center
356 Skillman Road, Skillman, NJ

In an emergency, do you wonder if first responders would know how to interact with your child with special needs? Do you worry that your loved one with a mental illness might not react in a safe way if emergency personnel entered your home? Do you fear that your elderly parent with dementia or physical limitations would be helpless or afraid if an emergency occurred and police were knocking at the door? Join us as we learn how our Police Department addresses these topics.

One of our community members had just those concerns. After watching a TED Talk on some unnecessary tragedies resulting from situations like above, he grew worried about how his child with special needs would react or be treated if police or firefighters had to assist their family in an emergency. Thankfully, he went to the source, Montgomery Police Director Tom Wain, to see what training our police officers have received. He was very pleasantly surprised and relieved to find out about the extensive training Montgomery Police and Emergency Service Personnel have undergone. It puts them decidedly ahead of the curve - and there are more trainings to come.

At this event on Tuesday, April 30th, Chief Tom Wain and Lt. Tom Frascella will be speaking about POAC training for Montgomery Police Officers and First Responders that supports safe approaches and protocols when interacting with special needs individuals in emergencies. They will also discuss Project Lifesaver and Smart911, which enables parents and caregivers to provide emergency services with particulars regarding their loved ones should a challenging situation arise. The event will provide time for a question/answer period and a time to mingle and speak with the police officers afterward. Refreshments will be provided.

The Montgomery Police Department is dedicated to serving our community with empathy and strength. They would like our community to know that they are here to help - not to judge, especially because most officers have people with Autism, Dementia, Mental Illness and other special needs in their own families and social circles. Come and see what help and protections are available in Montgomery and surrounding areas.

RSVP is not required, but please fill out this Survey Monkey questionnaire if possible so we have an estimate of attendees: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JMPHYJT> or email: jeanneskaar@gmail.com