

Gatekeeper Program

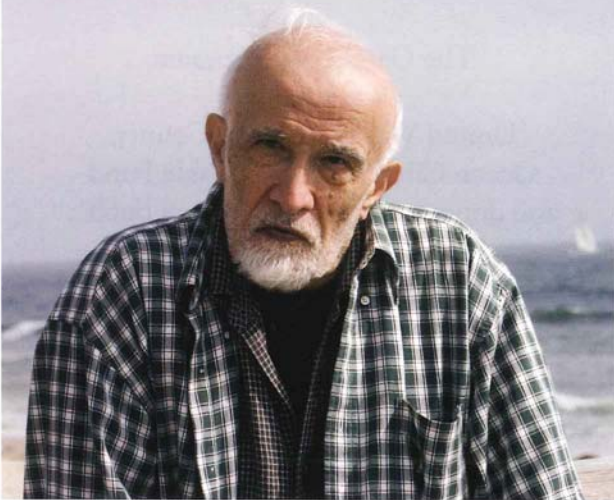
The Gatekeeper Program is an innovative partnership that respects and values the older members of this community. Senior citizens can count on familiar figures in their own neighborhoods to watch out for them and take prompt action when danger signs appear. With a trained Gatekeeper nearby, help is just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

Gatekeeper Reporting Process

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.



Partner Agency United Way of Atlantic County, United Way of Cape May County