

# Spotlight on Prevention

Partnering to protect people with special needs

## Safety Benefits of Global Positioning System (GPS) Devices

Global Positioning System (GPS) devices provide security and protection for provider agencies, direct care workers, and individuals receiving services by offering insight into driver behavior as well as up-to-the minute information on road conditions and traffic.

GPS is a global navigation satellite system that is commonly used to determine a vehicle's location, receive navigation and directions to a location, and estimate time of arrival. These features can assist providers in planning and executing transportation more effectively. Awareness of travel time and alternate routes when unexpected road conditions arise helps get people receiving services to their destinations in a timely and less stressful manner.

GPS devices also include other beneficial features to monitor vehicle activity. Many GPS devices send notifications for hard braking, acceleration warnings, speeding alerts, and idling. Awareness of these driving behaviors provides agencies an opportunity to address the cause and prevent future driving incidents. GPS devices may also include an activated engine light and monitoring of seatbelt use. All these functions help to ensure that staff and people receiving services are transported in a safe, cautious, and purposeful manner.

GPS allows provider agencies working with vulnerable populations to more proactively react to positive and/or negative driver behaviors as well as monitor route conditions. This ensures that these provider agencies can be more dynamic in their approach to safe driving. Further, the proven benefits in accident prevention have led many insurance plans cover the cost of GPS tracking services.