

## Here's how it works:

- (1) Interested postal patrons register to participate in the program. Your local postmaster can give you more details on registration.
- (2) Your letter carrier will be authorized to place a **Carrier Alert** symbol in your mailbox which will alert all letter carriers to watch your mail for any signs of distress, such as an unusual accumulation.
- (3) If your letter carrier finds an accumulation of mail, and you have not covered the sticker to signal that you will be away for a few days, he or she will notify the agency where you are registered or report your name to the postal supervisor, who will report it to the agency.
- (4) The social service agency will then try to contact you by phone. If you cannot be reached, the agency personnel will try to contact a friend or relative whom you have listed as a contact in the event of an emergency.
- (5) If a friend or relative cannot be reached, the social service agency will send a worker to your home to check on your health and well-being.



### Joint Statement of Support: 25th Anniversary of Carrier Alert

In July 1982, the United States Postal Service and the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) launched **Carrier Alert**, a joint effort to partner with local social service agencies across the country to offer a measure of security for one of the most vulnerable segments of our society—homebound citizens.

During its 25-year history, **Carrier Alert** has leveraged letter carriers' unique daily presence in America's communities to keep a watchful eye on elderly, infirm and disabled citizens. The value of the program has been repeatedly demonstrated as alert letter carriers have helped thousands of these citizens receive assistance. In many cases, their actions have literally saved lives.

The all-volunteer **Carrier Alert** program is a natural extension of the role letter carriers and the Postal Service play in America's neighborhoods. Together, the Postal Service and letter carriers are committed to serving the people and communities in ways that go beyond simply delivering the mail. We show how deeply we care for the communities we serve.

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of **Carrier Alert**, we encourage all NALC branch leaders and local postmasters to recommit themselves to working with local social service agencies to support the program and to extend its reach to those who most need the peace of mind it offers.

signed by:  
William H. Young, President  
National Association of Letter Carriers

John E. Potter, Postmaster General  
United States Postal Service

The following organizations have demonstrated their volunteer spirit and willingness to make the **Carrier Alert** program a success:

National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO  
United Way  
United States Postal Service  
American Red Cross  
Area Agency on Aging

# CARRIER ALERT



Your letter carrier  
wants to help you

## Carrier Alert—A lifeline to help as close as your mailbox

If living alone worries you, the **Carrier Alert** program can offer you the comfort of knowing that someone who visits your home regularly can call for help if you need it. This free service has been developed especially for older adults and the homebound—people who may have difficulty reaching vital services because of an accident or sudden illness.



The **National Association of Letter Carriers** and the **United States Postal Service** have joined together with a variety of social service agencies to provide a community service to those who are the most isolated members of the community. The **United Way**, the **American Red Cross** and the **Area Agency on Aging** invite you to register for this free service so that your letter carrier can help you if you need it.

