Of Rock County

**1900 Center Avenue**

**Janesville, WI 53546**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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 The Rock County Purple Tube Project’s goal is to assist families and first responders by providing information which may be helpful in the event of a medical or behavioral emergency.

Our desire is for those impacted by dementia be able to stabilize at home whenever possible. When this is not possible we want to make sure first responders and family members have needed information available quickly.

This project is a collaboration between the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Rock County, Rock County Council on Aging, law enforcement, emergency medical services and the 911 communication center.

 As the number of people with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias grows, so does the need for positive emergency interventions. The Rock County Purple Tube Project assists families coping with dementia to develop a crisis/safety plan which includes information such as contact people, brief medical history, powers of attorney for healthcare and also ways to best interact with the person with dementia.

The Purple Tubes are available to Rock County consumers at no charge. We will make an appointment with anyone interested to assist them in filling out the forms, explain where to store the purple tubes and answers any questions they may have.

“We are excited to be the first county in Wisconsin to offer this service and look forward to making Rock County more dementia friendly. We have had an excellent response from Emergency Medical Services and Law Enforcement across the county,” said Cori Marsh, Dementia Care Specialist at the Rock County Aging and Disability Resource Center. “Most of the emergency medical service providers and law enforcement offers have been trained in how to use the purple tube.”

Please call 608-741-3600 for more information or to make an appointment to get a purple tube. Marsh also has open walk in hours around the county where families may complete the paper work for the Purple Tube project in Beloit, Clinton, Edgerton, Evansville and Orfordville.

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