

About the MD PHA CHIP program

How does it work? At Maryland Prince Hall Child Identification Program (CHIP) events, Prince Hall Masons provide the equipment, volunteers and materials necessary to generate identifying items for children in "completed packs" (not kits to be filled out by parents at home) for parents to take home for safe keeping. In the event a child is missing, parents then provide the CHIP PACK to law enforcement as an aid in recovery and identification.

CHIP is a part of MASONICCHIP which is recognized by the NCMEC as one of the most comprehensive child ID services available and all the identifying items in the pack are provided at NO COST to the general public.

No information or data is retained by anyone involved with CHIP. Only the permission slip is retained to document the number of children served. No copies of any ID materials are kept on file by any of the organizers; the parents receive all ID materials and health information produced.

- A signed permission form is required to participate in the program.
- Events are offered "At No Cost to Parents" so that anyone wanting their child to participate in the event can do so, provided they sign a permission form before engaging in the event.
- All identifying items generated at MDPHACHIP events are the sole property and given to the individual, child's parent or guardian; are placed in an ID pack along with safety education information and taken home for safe keeping in case the need arises to give law enforcement items to help find a missing person.
- No information of identified individual is to be retained, (except a signed permission form required to participate in the program held by the Prince Hall Masonic Grand Lodge) by any organization or agency involved.
- Events consist of Masons setting up equipment and enlisting volunteers necessary to generate individual Completed ID Packages that contain identifying items. These items are vital to law enforcement agencies in the recovery and identification of missing persons, and aid in the prosecution of perpetrators.

MD PHA Masonic CHIP FAQ