



## NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, July 8, 2010

**Contact: Jack P. Marschall**  
**(440) 885-8181 or (216) 346-9935 (cell)**

### **PARMA ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF SENIOR SAFE AT HOME PROGRAM**

**(PARMA)** – Parma Mayor Dean DePiero has announced that funding is available to expand the City of Parma’s “Senior Safe at Home Program.”

“One of the priorities of my administration has been finding ways to assist our seniors who want to live in the comfort of their own homes as long as they can, and feel safe and secure doing it,” said Mayor DePiero. “This program has received an abundance of positive feedback from the seniors, and I’m pleased we have the ability to offer the service to more residents.”

The Senior Safe at Home Program offers a free phone based monitoring system that utilizes a necklace or wristwatch alert pendent. The strength of the monitoring system allows seniors to travel most anywhere in and around their home and be in voice range of the system should they have a medical emergency. In the event of an emergency, a live voice will assist the resident in calling the proper authorities or relatives.

Seventy-seven residents are currently enrolled, and funding will allow for twenty new applicants in 2010. To qualify, you must be a Parma resident age 65 or over, live alone and have a gross annual income of less than \$36,300 per year. Disabled persons under 65 years of age may also qualify. The \$24.95 monthly monitoring fee and \$49 activation fee are paid for by the City of Parma Community Development Department through a Federal Block Grant. Applications will be received until August 31, 2010 and are available by calling (216) 661-7372.

“I can’t tell you how many letters we have received from seniors on this program and their families,” said Mayor DePiero. “The sense of security produced by this program has made life easier and less stressful for all. I strongly encourage all who think they are eligible to apply.”

The City of Parma contracts with Safe Med Alert of Cuyahoga Falls for the alert system installation and monitoring.

###