Nighttime Wandering Alerts
Local Build Guide (No Internet)

Uses Aqara Hub M1S Gen 2 for local alerts that keep working when the internet is down.

Last updated: 2026-01-28

Before you start: read the overview page first (scan the QR code or tap the link).

https://thecarealert.com/system-1-nighttime-wandering-alerts/

If you follow this guide in order, you will end with a working system.

Equipment Checklist

Stop here until you have everything.

Item	Link (tap/click)	QR (scan)
Aqara Hub M1S Gen 2	https://www.aqara.com/us/product/hub-m1s-gen-2/	
Aqara Door & Window Sensor	https://www.aqara.com/us/product/door-and-window-sensor/	
Aqara Smart Plug (US Version)	https://www.aqara.com/us/product/smart-plug/	
Aqara Wireless Mini Switch	https://www.aqara.com/us/product/wireless-mini-switch/	

Install (put the parts in the right places)

Do this first. No automations yet.

- Plug the Aqara Hub M1S Gen 2 into power near the center of the home.
- Plug the lamp into the Aqara Smart Plug. Then plug the Smart Plug into the wall.
- Put a door sensor on the door frame and the magnet piece on the door.
- Close the door. Make sure the two pieces line up and are close together.
- Repeat for each door you want to watch (front door, back door, and optionally bedroom door).
- Put the Mini Switch next to the caregiver's bed (same spot every night).

Connect Devices (Aqara app only)

Everything happens inside the Aqara app.

- Open the Aqara Home app and sign in (or create an account).
- Add the Hub M1S Gen 2. Follow the steps to connect it to Wi-Fi (2.4 GHz).
- Add each Door Sensor. Name them: Front Door Sensor, Back Door Sensor, Bedroom Door Sensor.
- Add the Smart Plug. Name it: Bedroom Lamp Plug.
- Add the Mini Switch. Name it: System Button.
- Open and close each door once. Confirm the Aqara app shows it opening and closing.

Programming (make the alerts)

You will create one automation per door.

- In Aqara: Automation → + (Add).
- Name it: Night Alert — Front Door (use the real door name).
- IF: Front Door Sensor opens.
- AND: Time is between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM.
- THEN: Hub plays a loud alarm sound.
- THEN: Hub light turns on or flashes (pick any obvious setting).
- THEN: Turn ON Bedroom Lamp Plug → Wait 2 seconds → Turn OFF (repeat once to flash twice).
- Save.
- Repeat for each door.

Programming (the button)

This is your simple arm/disarm control.

- Create automation: Arm Night Alerts.
- IF: System Button single press.
- THEN: Enable Night Alert automations (or run an "Armed" Scene).

- Create automation: Disarm Night Alerts.
- IF: System Button double press.
- THEN: Disable Night Alert automations (or run a "Disarmed" Scene).

Test Checklist

Do not skip this. Test before you trust it.

- Temporarily set the time condition to "Any time" so you can test during the day.
- Open the front door. Confirm: hub alarm + hub light + lamp flashes.
- Repeat for each door.
- Press the button to disarm. Open a door. Confirm: no alert (if you implemented arm/disarm).
- Re-arm and test again.
- Set the time condition back to 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM.

Daily Use

Simple on purpose.

- At bedtime: press the System Button to arm.
- In the morning: press the System Button to disarm.
- If an alert happens: check on your loved one, then disarm to stop noise.

Advanced Options (optional)

Only do this after the system works for 7 nights.

- Use different hub light colors for different doors (front = red, back = blue).
- Add more smart plugs/lights for stronger visual alerts.
- Add more sensors for more doors.

Troubleshooting (when it doesn't work)

Fix one thing at a time.

- If a door sensor misses: replace the battery and move the hub closer.
- If hub alarm is too quiet: choose a louder alarm tone in Aqara.
- If Wi-Fi goes down: local Zigbee automations still run, but phone notifications won't.
- Reminder: this system reduces uncertainty. It does not guarantee awareness.