Angel Program
Heroin & Opioids

Opioids are the oldest known form of pain relief in the world.

Heroin is 2x as potent as morphine for 1/4 of the price.

In 2014, Michigan had more overdose fatalities from heroin than from motor vehicle crashes.

1,745 overdose deaths

Overdose deaths are up 14% from 2013 in every corner of Michigan.

21 million opioid prescriptions were filled in Michigan in 2014.
Per resident, the largest number of opioid prescriptions were written in northern Michigan counties.

**Signs of Heroin or Opioid Abuse:**
- Pinpoint pupils
- Track marks
- Collapsed veins
- Change in personality
- Changes in weight and appetite
CDC Data

- Overdose deaths involving prescription opioids have quadrupled since 1999, and so have sales of these prescription drugs. From 1999 to 2014, more than 165,000 people have died in the U.S. from overdoses related to prescription opioids.

- Opioid prescribing continues to fuel the epidemic. Today, at least half of all U.S. opioid overdose deaths involve a prescription opioid. In 2014, more than 14,000 people died from overdoses involving prescription opioids.
How Angel Started

For decades, police officers have been on the front lines of the war on drugs. In an attempt to disrupt an ever-increasing supply chain, police officers often find themselves arresting drug addicts as much, if not more so, than drug dealers and traffickers. In the meantime, heroin and opioid addiction has become a severe public health concern in the United States, destroying and often ending lives.
How Angel Started

In June 2015, the Gloucester, Massachusetts Police Department developed a revolutionary new way to fight the war on drugs by doing something about the demand; not just the supply. Under this plan, drug addicts who seek help are placed in a recovery program rather than face arrest and jail time.
Gloucester Results, so far

The 376 patients who entered the Gloucester police-led “angel” program during its first year included 88 who had been treated for opioid addiction six or more times before, and 144 who were treated for addiction between one and five times before showing up at the police station seeking help.

Yet the average age of those participants during the program’s first year — from June 2015 to June 2016 — was just over 29 years old.
Gloucester Results, so far

“The high direct referral rate of 94 percent exceeds those reported for hospital-based initiatives that are designed to provide immediate access to detoxification and treatment,” the report reads, noting 21 percent of those who sought treatment by other means nationally were not able to access it.”

-New report enthusiastically praises angel program
By Ray Lamont, Staff Writer
Gloucester Times
Dec 22, 2016
The Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (PAARI) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the Gloucester Police addiction initiative, to aid other police departments to implement similar programs, and to foster a dialogue around the unique opportunity for police departments to take direct action against the disease of drug addiction in their communities.
The MSP Angel Program allows an individual struggling with drug addiction to walk into a MSP post during regular business hours and ask for assistance.
If accepted into the MSP Angel Program, the individual will be guided through a professional substance abuse assessment and intake process to ensure proper treatment placement.
MSP Angel Program

An “Angel” volunteer, who is a member of the local community, will be present to support the individual during the process, and to provide transportation to the identified treatment facility.
Planning

• Initial Research and Discussions with PAARI

• Several Discussions with PIHP Regional Entities (Region 2, NMRE)

• Planning with MSP 7th District Command and the Gaylord Post
Development

• Drafting of Departmental Forms
  – Volunteer Angel Application and Waivers
  – Participant Intake, Assessment, and Waivers
  – Program Donation Forms
  – Informational Documents
    • Brochure
    • Flyer
    • Guidelines and Tips for Angels, Police, and Dispatchers
Development (cont’d)

• Interdepartmental Approvals
  – Administrative Services Bureau
  – Field Services Bureau
  – Special Investigations Division
  – Legal and Legislative Section
  – Public Affairs Section
  – Official Forms
  – Office of the Director
Each MSP Post needs to have approximately 10-15 Angel volunteers to assist program participants.
Angel Recruiting

- Angel Recruiting
  - Application and Background Check
  - Requirements
    - At least 21 years of age.
    - Valid driver’s license.
    - Registered, insured vehicle in operating condition.
    - Provide transportation to treatment center for participant.
    - Submit to Criminal History Background Check.
    - If in recovery, must have at least 2 years in recovery.
    - Live within one hour of the post.
    - Pay for required meals and lodging up front; then request for reimbursement, which may take up to 60 days.
Angel Training

• 3 Hour Training Curriculum
  – Angel Description
  – Angel Policy and Protocol
  – Angel Pledge of Confidentiality and the Waiver of Liability/Assumption of Risk/Indemnity Agreement
  – Angel Guidelines and Tips
  – Personal Safety Training
  – Quick Checklist for Angels
  – Question and Answer
Pilot Post

• Gaylord Post
  – The Gaylord Post hosted Town Hall meetings and issued several press releases to make citizens aware of the program.
  – The Gaylord Post opened its doors to the Angel Program on October 21, 2016.
  – The 1st successful placement into treatment occurred on November 2, 2016.
  – Post personnel provided feedback and suggestions to help facilitate further expansion of the program.
Current Coverage
Expansion

• Training for MSP’s 8th District (Upper Peninsula) on March 7, 2017.

• The Angel Program will be available across the Upper Peninsula by March 31, 2017.

• MSP will expand statewide (district by district) by December 31, 2017.
Improvements

- Increased public awareness!
- Follow-up with participants
- Release of information of participants
Questions?

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