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## About PAARI:

In May of 2015, after a scourge of opioid overdoses in the City of Gloucester, Gloucester Police Chief Leonard Campanello announced a new plan to treat opioid addiction. Under the initiative, the Gloucester Police Department would not charge any person afflicted with the disease of addiction if the person presented themselves to the police department, with or without any drugs, and asked for help to get into treatment. The police promised to help every individual who came into the station, regardless of their city of residence and their insurance status. In addition, each person looking for help would be assigned an “Angel” who would sit with the person through the intake process until they are referred into an acute or long-term treatment facility.

The program was immediately successful. Since it’s start, almost every single day a new person suffering from addiction comes into the Gloucester Police Department looking for help.

PAARI was co-founded by Gloucester Police Chief Leonard Campanello and John Rosenthal.

The mission of the organization is:

- 1) To support the Gloucester initiative
- 2) To aid other police departments to implement similar programs.
- 3) To foster a dialogue around the unique opportunity for police departments to take direct action against the disease of drug addiction in their communities.
- 4) Help change state and national policy around opioid addiction treatment.
- 5) To directly assist persons with addiction who are in recovery through this program with educational incentives, housing assistance, job placement and child care.

The organization has no paid employees and intends to use funds raised to provide critical elements of the program including:

- Distribution of nasal naloxone- a life saving drug that is used during times of overdose to reverse the effects of too much opiates.
- Transportation to acute and long-term treatment locations
- Training and support for “Angels”
- Grants to police departments to offset costs associated with enacting similar programs
- Costs associated with studying the effectiveness of the initiative.