

## **OUTSIDE AGENCY COLLABORATION – INTERVENTION SERVICES CHAPTER 8**

### **8.3.1 OPERATION HOPE – Drug Abuse Response Team**

#### **BACKGROUND**

There has been an increase in heroin and opiate use in recent years in Ohio and the Bucyrus area:

- Between 2011 and 2014, heroin-related deaths in the State of Ohio increased 714%.
- Fentanyl-related deaths are up 378% during the same period.
- There has been an uptick in heroin and opiate-related overdoses in the greater Bucyrus area (to include here in Bucyrus);
- Heroin and opiate addiction drives a significant number of the crimes we see (home, vehicle, commercial, and residential burglaries; thefts; shoplifting; robbery etc.);
- We have seen crimes of violence related to the illicit drug trade;
- Law enforcement's traditional and predominant approach focuses on the enforcement aspect with little regard for demand reduction;
- We (as police officers) are generally not aware or attuned to what is available in terms of treatment and recovery options so we can make informed recommendations or referrals to people in need.

#### **POLICY**

Effective September 14, 2016, The Bucyrus Police Department implemented Operation HOPE (the Heroin – Opiate Prevention Effort).

The Bucyrus Police Department Operation HOPE initiative will be pursued in concert with our partners: (local) Crawford 20/20 Public Safety Drug Abuse Awareness team, Together We Hurt Together We Heal, Maryhaven, Volunteer 'First Step Coaches' and (national) Police Assisted Addiction Recover Initiative (PAARI).

#### **Program Philosophy**

It is the philosophy of the Bucyrus Police Department that:

- We support a three-prong approach to combatting illegal drugs - Enforcement, Education, and Treatment.
- We recognize that addiction is a disease which can benefit from medical intervention and treatment.
- Officers responding to any call for service or performing any police action will be cognizant for the potential that the involved parties may be suffering from heroin and/or opiate addiction.
- Officers interacting with persons suffering from addiction *will be professional, compassionate and understanding at all times*. Often times, people suffering from addiction ask for help only as a "last resort" and may be considering self-harm or suicide. Your interaction with them can help make a difference.

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- In all instances, officers will continue to take enforcement action within their discretion and normal scope of duties to address criminal activity. At the same time, officers will recognize the fact that such criminal activity may result from a medical condition (addiction).
- In addition to any police action taken in such circumstances involving known or suspected heroin – opiate addiction (i.e. citizen contacts, warnings, summons, arrest etc.), the officer will provide the involved parties an Operation HOPE flyer advising them of the program and related services.
- The department will make use of its social media presence (i.e. Facebook, Twitter etc.) to market Operation HOPE using the same messages communicated in the flyer.

### ***General Program Guidelines***

It shall be the policy of the Bucyrus Police Department that:

- Any person who enters the police station and requests help with their addiction to heroin or opiates will immediately be screened for potential participation in Operation HOPE.
- If the initial contact is made on the street, officers will use the discretion that we exercise on a daily basis. This program specifically and exclusively applies to persons who present at the police station for help.
- All department personnel having contact with anyone entering the Bucyrus Police Department and requesting help with their addiction will be professional, compassionate and understanding at all times.
- If such a person who has requested help with their addiction is in possession of drugs or their drug equipment (needles, etc.), they will not be criminally charged. The materials will be collected and secured for later destruction.
- No questioning of the person will be undertaken in an effort to collect drug intelligence, determine the origins of any drugs relinquished by the person, that dissuades the participant or undermines the intended purpose of this program - - namely to encourage persons to seek police assistance in getting help for their addiction without fear of arrest or police action.
- The officer or dispatcher having initial contact with the program participant will immediately notify the patrol supervisor that a potential Operation HOPE participant is requesting help with their addiction.

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**NOTE: The Operation HOPE “First Step Coach” logbook, containing program guidance and supporting materials, will be stored in in the communication room.**

### **Specific Program Implementation**

**The patrol supervisor is responsible for ensuring this policy is followed.**

#### **The patrol supervisor, dispatcher and/or assigned officer will take the following steps:**

- Upon entering the Bucyrus Police Department, an officer or dispatcher will monitor any person requesting assistance under Operation HOPE until such time Operation HOPE intake is initiated.
- The participant will be treated with respect, care and compassion and reassured that assistance will be provided.
- The program participant can stay in the front lobby until the assigned officer arrives. They will be kept under visual observation to ensure they are not ill or in distress.
- If at any time the participant is noted to be in medical distress or appears to be physically ill or requests medical assistance, EMS personnel will be assigned to respond as in any medical emergency.
- Participation in Operation HOPE is voluntary. If a potential program participant subsequently elects not to request assistance or continue with program screening, they will be allowed to depart and no force will be used to detain them or prevent them from doing so.
- Dispatch will generate a call for service (CAD) under the Operation HOPE call type and an officer will be assigned to the call.

**NOTE: The shift supervisor may exercise discretion in which officer is assigned to the call based upon current call volume, conflicting calls-for-service, and other factors.**

- Upon arrival of the assigned officer, the officer will ascertain and verify if the program participant possesses any contraband they wish to relinquish or possesses any weapons (i.e. prudent officer safety measures). This will include a search of the program participant and any persons accompanying them into the secure area of the police station.

**NOTE: This may be done with the explanation that the parties are entering a secure and sterile area and all persons are subject to search.**

- The officer will bring the program participant to the interview room.
- The officer will assure the participant that it is our goal to assist them in exploring treatment options and attempting to identify a program or facility which can assist them. The participant will be treated with respect, care, and compassion.
- The assigned officer will ensure that Bucyrus Police Department Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement and Bucyrus Police Department Operation HOPE Intake Form are completed.
- The assigned officer will take steps to positively identify the program participant through a photo driver's license, photo identification card, or other means.

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- Upon completion of the Operation HOPE Intake Form and Program Participant Agreement:
  - The officer will request from dispatch that a report number be assigned to the matter.
  - The assigned officer will again inquire if the program participant has any drugs and/or drug equipment to relinquish. If so:
    - The items will be inventoried. The receiving officer will enter a brief description of the items in the report.
    - The items will be packaged in an appropriate manner (to include the use of “sharps containers” if appropriate) and marked with the associated incident only.
    - The items will be placed in a storage locker in the property room for later retrieval by the Bucyrus Police Department property custodian.
    - If at any point a subject who has relinquished drugs and/or drug equipment under Operation HOPE subsequently withdraws their request for assistance or elects to discontinue program screening, they will not be charged with possessing the items they have already relinquished.
- The assigned officer will determine if the participant is currently on probation.

NOTE: If an individual is determined to be on probation, it is not necessarily a disqualifying factor. The requested placement should be coordinated with the subject’s probation officer.

- The assigned officer will ensure that Bucyrus Public Safety Dispatch conducts an NCIC check on the participant.
- The officer processing the Operation HOPE intake will review the NCIC results and - Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening, to determine if any of the following Operation HOPE disqualifying factors exist.

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### **Persons in the following categories ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION HOPE -**

- The subject has an outstanding arrest warrant.

*NOTE: Should the subject have an actionable Ohio or other jurisdiction arrest warrant, he/she will be deemed ineligible to participate in the program, will be taken into custody, and transported to the Crawford County Jail as normal. They should be informed that upon completion of their legal obligations associated with the warrant, they may again seek help under Operation HOPE.*

*Should the subject have a non-extraditable arrest warrant in another jurisdiction, he/she will be deemed ineligible to participate in the program. Persons refused program participation due to a non-extraditable out-of-state warrant may be referred to a first step coach.*

*Recommended they contact the placement coordinators for support, assistance and guidance until a placement can be arranged. Maryhaven, 137 S. Stetzer Rd. (EastPointe) 419-562-1740, provides ambulatory, (walk-in, outpatient detox) Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (3pm on Fri.) No insurance needed, service available through ADAMH board of Crawford-Marion County.*

*consideration should be given to assist the participant by providing transportation.*

- The officer or patrol supervisor expresses the reasonable belief that the FIRST STEP COACH volunteer or others could be seriously harmed by the subject
- The subject is a registered sex offender and/or has previously been convicted of a felony sex offense.
- NOTE: Should the subject be a registered sex offender and/or has previously been convicted of a felony sex offense, he/she will be deemed ineligible to participate in the program and there is no referral information we can provide.
- The subject is under age 18 and does not have parent or guardian consent
- If at any time the participant is noted to be in medical distress or appears to be physically ill or requests medical assistance, EMS personnel will be assigned to respond as in any medical emergency.

**NOTE:** Should EMS personnel deem it medically necessary, the program participant may be transported to a medical facility. In such an instance, the responding Operation HOPE First Step Coach(s) will be informed of the participant's status and location.

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### ***FOLLOWING INITIAL SCREENING AND CONFIRMATION THAT THE SUBJECT IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION HOPE:***

- Dispatch will contact an Operation HOPE “First Step Coach” from the First Step Coach call-out list or by issuing a group First Step Coach page. Every effort will be made to obtain a First Step Coach of the same gender as the program participant. The First Step Coach will be informed that an Operation HOPE intake is occurring and be requested to respond to the Bucyrus Police Department. Dispatch will ascertain an approximate estimated time of arrival of the First Step Coach and inform the officer.
- Upon arrival of the First Step Coach, the officer will brief the First Step Coach on the situation. The officer will provide the First Step Coach a copy of the participant’s completed Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement and Bucyrus Police Department Operation HOPE Intake Form. The officer will also provide the First Step Coach with the “First Step Coach Kit” (stored in the patrol office storage).
- The officer will introduce the First Step Coach (by first name only) and transition the program participant to the care of the First Step Coach.
- The officer will accomplish a brief report (see attached examples). An Operation HOPE (No Crime report) category has been created in CAD. Original copies of the participant’s Operation HOPE Program Participant Agreement; Bucyrus Police Department Operation HOPE Intake Form and Operation HOPE Participant Criminal History Screening will be attached to the report.
- If the First Step Coach subsequently advises that the participant is unable to be placed after exhausting all possible methods, the participant is not to leave without being given a plan to continue with help. The participant shall be afforded every courtesy to find them a safe place upon departure.

*Recommend they contact any of the following:*

*contact the placement coordinators for support, assistance and guidance until a placement can be arranged.*

*Maryhaven, 137 S.Stetzer Rd.(EastPointe) 419-562-1740, provides ambulatory, (walk-in, outpatient detox)Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (3pm on Fri.) No insurance needed, service available through ADAMH board of Crawford-Marion County.*

*(wonthapn2me.org), is a compilation of local resources*

*consideration should be given to assist the participant by providing transportation.*

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## **SAMPLE OFFENSE REPORT NARRATIVES**

### **Completed Intake**

#### **OPERATION HOPE INTAKE**

On 10/24/2015 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Bucyrus Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (Operation HOPE forms) and determined he met program participation criteria.

Operation HOPE "First Step Coach" Robert (First Step Coach #14) was contacted and responded to the Bucyrus Police station. I introduced him to JONES and he began to assist him.

**STATUS: CLOSED**

### **Incomplete Intake – Actionable Arrest Warrant**

#### **OPERATION HOPE INTAKE**

On 10/24/2015 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Bucyrus Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (Operation HOPE forms) and determined that he did not meet program participation criteria due to the existence of a previously existing arrest warrant. He was taken into custody (ref 15SCA-986-AR).

It was recommended that JONES return to the Bucyrus Police Department for Operation HOPE screening after resolving his pending legal issues.

**STATUS: CLOSED**

### **Incomplete Intake – Non-Extraditable Arrest Warrant**

#### **OPERATION HOPE INTAKE**

On 10/24/2015 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Bucyrus Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (Operation HOPE forms) and determined that he did not meet program participation criteria due to the existence of a previously existing arrest warrant from INSERT STATE.

JONES was advised of his ineligibility for Operation HOPE and provided an alternative recommendation that he should contact **Maryhaven** or the other available local resources for guidance.

**STATUS: CLOSED**

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### **Incomplete Intake – Sex Offender/Prior Sexual Conviction**

#### **OPERATION HOPE INTAKE**

On 10/24/2015 at 1515 hours, David E. JONES (DOB: 2/17/1987) entered the Bucyrus Police Department and requested assistance under Operation HOPE.

I conducted initial Operation HOPE screening of JONES (Operation HOPE forms) and determined that he did not meet program participation criteria due to the existence of prohibited prior criminal conduct (sex offender/sex offense).

JONES was advised of his ineligibility for Operation HOPE.

**STATUS: CLOSED**