



A community policing movement to create
non-arrest pathways to treatment

**Police Assisted Addiction
& Recovery Initiative (PAARI)**

- 89% of people who need treatment don't receive it
- 70% of people in jail have a substance use disorder
- 72,000 overdose fatalities; one death every 11 minutes
- People with substance use disorders are more vulnerable amid COVID-19



PAARI: The Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative

- Law enforcement has a front row seat to the opioid epidemic and are in a unique position to prevent overdose deaths
- PAARI is a nonprofit that is the driving force behind the policing movement to create non-arrest pathways to treatment and recovery
- Founded alongside the groundbreaking Gloucester Police Department Angel Initiative in June 2015
- To date, PAARI has **579 law enforcement partners in 34 states**
- PAARI and our law enforcement partners are working towards a vision where non-arrest diversion programs are a standard community policing practice across the country



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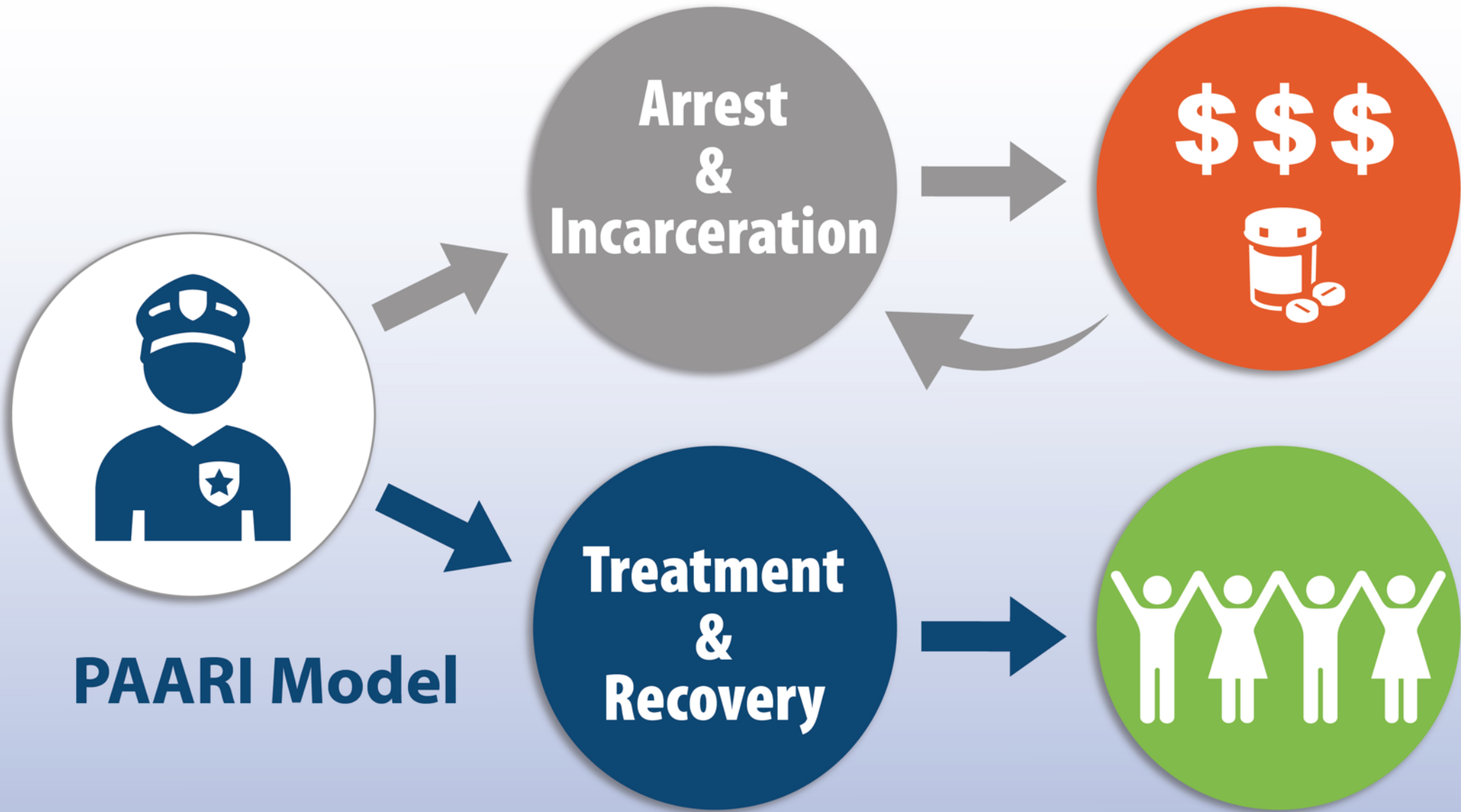


Why Law Enforcement?

- ✓ You are closest to the problem
 - ✓ You are problem solvers
 - ✓ You got into this job to help people
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- ✓ Saves lives
 - ✓ Reduces crime



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Where It Started

- Gloucester, Massachusetts
- Series of overdose deaths in 2015
- June 1, 2015: GPD established a safe/sanctuary station – Anyone can self-refer by walking in to ask for help and will receive a direct referral to treatment
- Option to turn in drugs or paraphernalia without fear of arrest
- Intake process to determine treatment needs and desires
- Address barriers by providing transportation, treatment scholarships, insurance enrollment support



Gloucester Angel Program

- Goal to **prevent overdose deaths** and create a simple, stigma free 24/7 entry point to treatment on demand
- Re-entry and ongoing support from Recovery Coaches, social workers, clinicians, trained volunteers, or officers, including connecting individuals to housing, employment, etc
- Programs evolve and components are added over time, including referrals from officers, active outreach, support to families, telephonic placement, naloxone training and distribution, etc
- Reframed addiction as a disease not a crime
- NEJM piece described that 94.5% of people were offered a same-day direct referral to detox or treatment, as compared to 50% placement rate from hospital-based initiatives



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Program Goals

- Utilize law enforcement's front row seat to the opioid crisis to **prevent overdose deaths** and remove barriers to treatment and recovery
- Remove barriers to access
 - Lack of a simple entry point
 - Lack of immediate access 24/7 (treatment on demand)
 - Lack of transportation
 - Inability to pay for treatment
 - Shame and stigma when seeking help
 - Treatment capacity
- Reframe addiction as a disease not a crime that needs treatment not jail i.e. “we cannot arrest our way out of this”
- Reduce crime, especially property crime
- Reduce health care and criminal justice costs
- Build trust between law enforcement and communities



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How PAARI Started

- Gloucester Police Department Angel Program caught national attention and sparked community policing movement – **Added a new tool to officers' toolkit**
- PAARI was founded as a 501c3 nonprofit organization to help law enforcement and public safety agencies design and implement programs that build pathways to treatment
- Headquartered in Boston with a offices in Gloucester and Plymouth MA partnerships with nearly 500 police departments nationwide
- Membership open to any law enforcement agency nationwide
- Only criteria is to provide non-arrest pathways to treatment and recovery support services



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PAARI MODEL



Train

- In Person
- Online (2021)



Support

- Onboarding
- Coaching
- Sample Procedures
- Templates
- Capacity Building



Connect

- National Summit
- Regional Gatherings
- Newsletters
- Tracking Trends

Program Models

- **PAARI has four primary program models:**
 1. SELF REFERRAL (ie walk in programs)
 2. INCIDENT-BASED OUTREACH (ie overdose follow up)
 3. RISK-BASED OUTREACH (ie targeted outreach before incident)
 4. OFFICER REFERRAL (ie any encounter is an opportunity)
- Goal to engage people upstream at the community level before they enter the criminal justice system
- Most departments combine elements and modify to suit their local needs, preferences, and capacity – no one size fits all
- Most departments combine elements from more than 1 pathway, whether formally or informally
- Outreach can be before crisis, co-response, or after crisis
- Continuous program adaptation, innovation, and improvement

Partnerships & Collaboration

- Police are reimagining their roles and addressing the opioid crisis in new ways
- People with substance use disorders will engage with police as a pathway to treatment and recovery
- Pre-arrest programs will only be successful if there is collaboration and linkages between across sectors
 - Public and private health insurance coverage for substance use disorders
 - Treatment capacity, especially medication assisted treatment available on demand
 - Programs are typically supported by clinicians, social workers, recovery coaches, and/or trained volunteers



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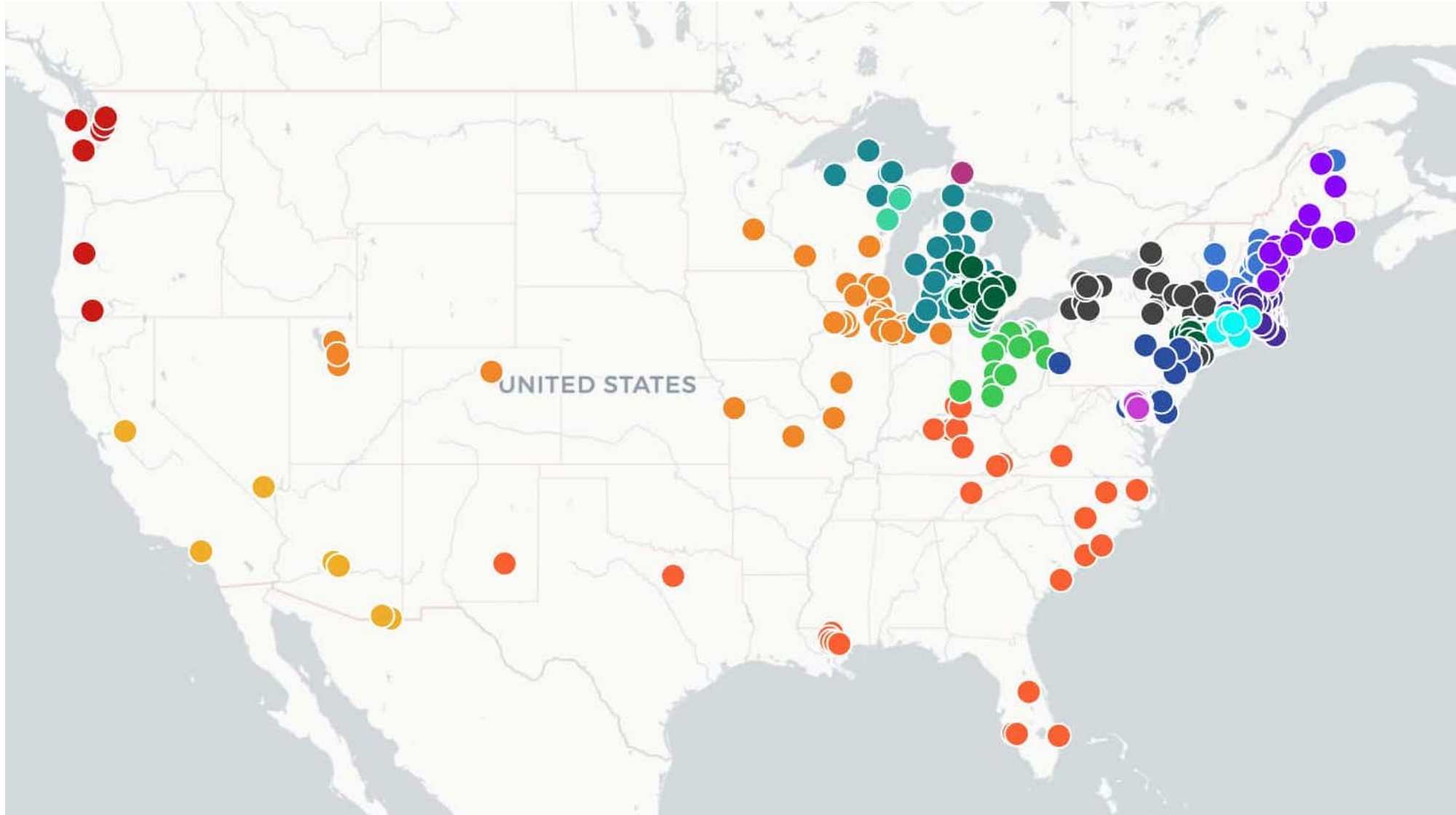
PAARI Recovery Corps

- Launched in October 2017
- First-of-its-kind program combining the power of service with the power of the recovery community and the power of police-based referral programs
- Expanded nationally through AmeriCorps VISTA in September 2019 with 40 full-time national service members focused on program development and capacity building



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Our Current Network of Law Enforcement Partners



PAARI IMPACT: Proof of Concept

Innovation to Policing

80,000
Officers/580
Communities

Increased Access to Treatment

26,000 People

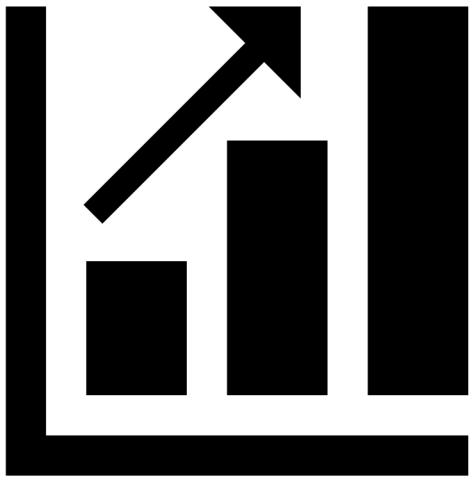
Change in Perception & Policy

New National
and State Policy

Our Impact

- Prevent and reduce overdose deaths
- Expand access to treatment on demand and recovery support – estimated 26,000 people have entered treatment through our network of law enforcement partners
- Improve public safety, reduce crime and calls for service
- Divert people away from the criminal justice system
- Improve collaboration between various agencies
- Increase trust between law enforcement and communities
- Change the dialogue about law enforcement's role in tackling the opioid epidemic
- Build momentum away from an arrest-first approach and towards a vision to make non-arrest diversion programs a standard policing practice

Police Embrace PAARI



2016-2020: 500% increase in departments adopting PAARI

Police have reported up to a 40% reduction in crime since joining PAARI

Departments report officer satisfaction increases when officers focus on helping vs. arresting

PAARI Training: Responds in Real Time

NARCAN Training



Our Efforts Amid COVID-19

- As overdoses are on the rise amid COVID-19, our work is more important than ever
- PAARI has provided training and technical assistance to help police departments make necessary program adjustments during the pandemic
 - Roll call video on outreach visits amid COVID-19
- PAARI has launched a new “Reentry Survival Kit” program to get resources into the hands of people returning to the community from incarceration



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**Shift the perception of addiction as a crime
to addiction as a disease**

Takeaways & Next Steps

- ✓ **Join PAARI** – PAARI is free to join and open to any law enforcement or public safety agency creating non-arrest pathways to treatment
- ✓ Contact us to schedule a follow up call to discuss your department's goals, ideas, and challenges
- ✓ Visit PAARI's website for resources, templates, videos, and more
- ✓ Follow PAARI on social media for news and updates
- ✓ Consider how you can partner with other agencies
- ✓ Consider what you can replicate and borrow from what's already been implemented elsewhere
- ✓ Consider how can you involve people with lived experience



For More Information:

Allie Hunter
Executive Director
allie@paariususa.org
www.paariususa.org

social media:
@PAARIUSA