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About PAARI:

In May of 2015, after a scourge of opioid overdoses in the City of Gloucester, Police Chief Leonard Campanello announced a new plan to treat opioid addiction. Under his plan, the Gloucester Police Department would not charge any person afflicted with the disease of addiction if the person presented themselves to the police department and asked for treatment. The police promised to help every individual who came into the station, regardless of their city of residence and their insurance status.

The program was immediately successful and the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (PAARI) was founded soon after the launch to support the Gloucester Initiative and others like it.

The mission of the organization is:

- 1) To support the Gloucester initiative and to aid other police departments to implement similar programs.
- 2) To foster a dialogue around the unique opportunity for police departments to take direct action against the disease of drug addiction in their communities.
- 3) Help change state and national policy around opioid addiction treatment.
- 4) 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 uses funds raised to provide critical elements of the program including:

- Distribution of naloxone- a life saving overdose reversal drug.
- Transportation to acute and long-term treatment locations
- Training and support for volunteers
- Resources and grants to police departments to offset costs associated with enacting similar programs
- Costs associated with studying the effectiveness of the initiative.

Successes:

- 350 program participants in less than six months
- 40 partner police departments in nine states running similar programs
 - 54 partner treatment centers in 19 states
 - 88 additional police departments currently in the process of creating similar programs, which will be announced in the near future.

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