

How the Angel Program 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.

In 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.

The Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (PAARI) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support police departments with implementing similar programs that foster a dialogue around the unique opportunity for law enforcement to take direct action against the disease of drug addiction in their communities.



Questions about the MSP Angel Program?

CONTACT:

Michigan State Police
Grants and Community Services Division

Phone: 517-284-3208

MSP-Angel@michigan.gov

www.michigan.gov/cjgrants

Contact your local MSP Post:



Michigan State Police

Angel Program

What are heroin and opioids?

Opioids are one of the oldest known forms of pain relief in the world. Morphine was widely abused during the 1800's as it was much more potent than traditional opium, of which it is derived. With twice the potency of morphine, heroin quickly became an abused narcotic in the U.S. in the early part of the 20th Century.

Now regulated by the federal Controlled Substances Act, most opioids are only available by prescription. This has had far reaching consequences to persons obtaining opioid prescriptions for pain relief. Given their close chemical relationship to heroin, abuse of prescription opioids can lead to users transitioning to heroin.

What are the signs of heroin or opioid abuse?

- Pupils of the eyes are very small in reduced lighting conditions--when pupils normally dilate.
- Track marks on the arm.
- Collapsed veins.
- Increase/decrease in appetite, changes in eating habits, and unexplained weight loss/gain.
- Change in overall attitude/personality with no other identifiable cause.

How does the MSP Angel Program work?

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.

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.

MSP Angel Program Donor Information:

The MSP has partnered with the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (PAARI) to assist individuals who wish to seek treatment for dependency and addiction to heroin and prescription opioids. The MSP has implemented the nationally renowned Angel Program, aimed at bringing law enforcement, community volunteers and individuals seeking assistance together in an effort to reduce dependency with heroin and prescription opioids in Michigan.

Your donation will assist the MSP in many ways, including providing training to community volunteers, covering reimbursement costs associated with the services provided by the Angel volunteers, purchasing of Angel Kits (comfort items) for each of the 30 MSP posts throughout the Upper and Lower Peninsula, as well as producing and distributing informational material pertaining to the MSP Angel Program and its intended purpose.

Individuals wishing to aid in the recovery of those suffering from the terrible disease of addiction by donating to the MSP Angel Program are asked to please complete the *Angel Program Donor Form and Transaction Receipt* found at: www.michigan.gov/cjgrants.

MAIL DONATIONS TO:

**MSP Angel Program Coordinator
Grants and Community Services Division
7150 Harris Drive
Dimondale, MI 48821
MSP-Angel@michigan.gov**

Please make checks and money orders payable to "MSP Angel Program".

All or part of your donation may be tax deductible as a charitable contribution. Please consult with your tax advisor.