

LITTLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

2 Kittridge Lane
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PROCEDURE #: 20-1

SUBJECT: RECOVERY ORIENTED POLICING MODEL (ROPM)

NOTE: This written directive is for the internal governance of the Littleton Police Department, and as provided by RSA 516:36, is not intended and should not be interpreted to establish a higher standard of care in any civil or criminal action than would otherwise be applicable under existing law.

Date of issue

Authority

01-08-2020

Issuing

Chief Paul Smith

Effective Date

01-08-2020

Distribution

All

PURPOSE

To improve substance/opioid use disorder (SUD/OD) intervention strategies by increasing access to treatment and recovery pathways for North Country adults with SUD/OD, as well as to improve knowledge and understanding by law enforcement regarding best practices for engaging and linking individuals to treatment and other resources.

INTRODUCTION

This model is in partnership with the North Country Health Consortium's (NCHC) Wellness and Recovery Model Program (WARM) which is a federally funded initiative to reduce opioid use and overdose deaths in the North Country and increase access to recovery and treatment resources. Current funding has allowed NCHC to assist in the development and implementation of a ROPM pilot program with Littleton Police Department.

The Littleton Police Department will develop the ability of each officer to implement a brief interaction model with individuals with Substance Abuse Disorder/Opioid Abuse Disorder (SUD/OD) to provide support and resources during encounters. The Chief of Police will identify a staff person(s) to be trained in Recovery Coach Academy and to develop other necessary skills to provide the Littleton Recovery Coach (LRC) support during non-traditional business hours for individuals

encountered by officers.

POLICY

- The LRC will work with NCHC to identify and develop data collection mechanisms to provide baseline and quarterly data on brief interactions and support provided by the LRC, resource distribution and staff training through development of tracking systems to include;
 - A system for tracking individual encounters, intakes, progress, outcomes, assistance provided, as well as follow-up one month later.
- Littleton Police Department will refer individuals seeking access to treatment or recovery for ongoing case management and support as needed, to the WARM program Community Health Worker/Recovery Coaches (CHW/RC) during regular business hours Monday through Friday 8am – 4:30pm and to the staffed Littleton Police Department Recovery Coach from 4:30pm – 8:00am and weekends.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will secure a signed release from individuals to facilitate referrals between LPD and any programs necessary to the individuals path to recovery.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will participate in on-going quality improvement efforts to ensure the ROPM pilot program effectiveness.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will provide an opportunity to communicate status updates to NHCH, including challenges, successes and other notable feedback.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will provide individual case management data for brief interactions and Recovery Coach support to NCHC ensuring a closed feedback loop, as consented to by securing a signed release from the individual, allowing the referral and patient information to be shared with NCHC.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will communicate any concerns regarding the ROPM program to the WARM Program coordinator at NCHC.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will participate in sustainability

conversations for the ROPM program.

- NCHC and the Littleton Recovery Coaches will meet quarterly or as needed, to report on program progress, conduct quality improvement, discuss terms and processes and to make adjustments to the program as needed.
- All employees at LPD will keep in confidence any proprietary information, such as internal data and documents, to which it is given access, except in the execution of its duties and responsibilities described herein.

OFFICER PROCEDURE

- Any officer that comes into contact with an individual following an overdose or seeking access to treatment and recovery should ask if the individual would like assistance and/or support. If the individual wishes to speak with someone, the officer will contact the on call Littleton Recovery Coach.
- The officer will conduct a standard warrant check through dispatch.
- If the person has a warrant, the officer shall inform the shift supervisor prior to making an arrest. An arrest is the last resort to someone seeking assistance and should only be authorized for serious offenses.
- If the individual turns over drugs or drug paraphernalia, they will not be charged. The materials will be collected and secured for destruction. Additionally, no questioning of the person to collect drug intelligence, determine the origins of any drugs relinquished by the person, or any other effort which may undermine the intended purpose of the program, will take place. Any information that is offered, unsolicited, may be documented and followed up with at a later time.
- If the person is in immediate distress and presents as an immediate danger to his/herself or needs immediate medical attention for any reason, the officer shall seek medical attention.
- If the individual does go to the hospital, the officer can give contact

information for a Littleton Recovery Coach to the individual for them to have as a future resource or the individual can request that the Littleton Recovery Coach meet them at the hospital.

LITTLETON RECOVERY COACH PROCEDURE

- Upon receiving information regarding an individual seeking treatment or assistance with recovery, the Littleton Recovery Coach will attempt to make contact with the individual as soon as possible (within 24 hours if no longer with an officer) to establish a time and place to meet.
- A minimum of 3 messages must be left within a 3 week time span before an individual will be considered inactive due to inability to contact.
- All contact attempts shall be documented.
- The meeting place shall be either at Littleton Regional Hospital in a public area, Littleton Police Department or in a public place that has been agreed upon by both parties if the individual refuses to meet at either of the other two locations.
- A Littleton Recovery Coach shall never meet at the individuals residence or the Littleton Recovery Coach's residence.
- If the individual needs transportation to get to a meeting place, the Littleton Recovery Coach can arrange a taxi.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach shall never transport the individual in his/her own personal vehicle.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will notify Dispatch when they are in route to the meeting location as well as when they are off at location, when they clear and the individuals name under the ROPM code.

- Once with the individual, the Littleton Recovery Coach will conduct an intake and go over all necessary forms as well as assist with getting the assistance needed.
- If the Littleton Recovery Coach feels at any time that the individual is in an immediate crisis, the LRC should call 911, call for immediate help from a supervisor or seek emergency medical treatment.
- A Littleton Recovery Coach should always seek immediate help in an emergency crisis
- The Littleton Recovery Coach shall report someone who is dangerous, threatening, violent, self-harming, destructive or suicidal.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach should report the incident and response to a supervisor.
- The Recoveree should not be left alone, should not drive and should be encouraged to call for help from a professional that he/she has been seeing.
- If at any time the Littleton Recovery Coach feels uncomfortable with the relationship between themselves and the individual or the individuals behavior becomes inappropriate, the LRC can end the meeting(s) and refer to a another LRC or any available RC in the area.
- The individual can choose to no longer participate in the program at any time.
- The Littleton Recovery Coach will document contact dates and times as well as documenting conversation, plans of action and referrals as best as they can.
- Services are not time limited and there is no set time period that services are to be provided for a client. The work with clients is based on accomplishing goals. Once those goals are met the client's case can be closed. If later the client decides that they need more services their case can be reopened

Reviewed Date

Authorized By:
Paul Smith
Chief of Police