

BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

MCLEAN COUNTY SAFE PASSAGES INITIATIVE

Reviewed by: Asst. Chief Greg Scott	Effective Date: July 31, 2018
Authorized by: Chief Clay Wheeler	Revision Date: July 21, 2021

PURPOSE

The Bloomington Police Department is pleased to collaborate with the McLean County Opioid Initiative to make a positive community impact in the fight against opioid addiction. McLean County Safe Passages Initiative provides an opportunity for McLean county residents who are addicted to opioids to seek treatment voluntarily.

DEFINITIONS

Safe Passage Initiative: Changing the relationship between local law enforcement and McLean County residents who voluntarily reach out for assistance with their opioid disorder, offering treatment rather than arrest.

Safe Passage Guide: A volunteer who assists the police department help people who are suffering from addiction throughout the Safe Passage program.

Safe Passage Intake Packet: Packet of paperwork provided by McLean County Safe Passage Initiative. Packets will be kept in report writing and near the Sergeants tower.

Treatment Liaison: A person designated by the McLean County Sheriff who determines appropriate placement for program participants and has direct contact with in-patient treatment providers.

Opioid: The following are opioids but is not an exhaustive list: morphine, heroin, fentanyl, oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet), hydrocodone (Vicodin).

Chestnut Health Systems Stabilization unit: 1003 Martin Luther King Dr. Bloomington, IL 309-820-3840.

POLICY

A McLean County resident who enters the police station or approaches an on duty police officer and requests help their opioid addiction will be screened into the Safe Passage Initiative. Persons who are in possession of drugs, paraphernalia or equipment will not be charged criminally. These items will be collected and disposed of in accordance with department policy.

Officers having contact with persons requesting help with their addiction will remain professional, compassionate and understanding throughout the contact. The officer will notify the shift supervisor as soon as practical of a possible Safe Passage intake.

The officer assigned to complete intake process will do the following:

1. Complete Safe Passage Initiative forms.
 - a. Program Intake
 - b. Program Participant Agreement
 - c. Release of Information
2. Complete a criminal history and warrant check.
3. Contact Chestnut Health Systems Stabilization unit (309) 820-3840 and advise them of the Safe Passages participant.
4. Dispose of any illegal drugs or paraphernalia in accordance with department policy.
5. Transport the person along with the completed Safe Passage paperwork to the Chestnut Health Systems Stabilization unit and leave the person in their care.
6. If the person is in need of medical care the person should be taken to the local emergency room of their choosing.

A person may ask for Safe Passage during an unrelated officer initiated encounter. The officer will consider the veracity of the request in the totality of circumstances. The officer may in their discretion, decide to continue the enforcement action or begin the screening process for admittance to the Safe Passage Initiative.

A McLean County resident voluntarily seeking help with opioid addiction may be ineligible due to the following:

1. Subject has an outstanding warrant. If the warrant is for a minor offense, the States Attorney having responsibility for the warrant should be contacted for a possible over ride.
2. Subject has three or more drug related convictions and
 - a. One or more is possession with the intent to deliver or;
 - b. Trafficking or;
 - c. A drug violation in a school zone.
3. The law enforcement officer reasonably believes the Safe Passages Guide would be at increased risk with the participant.
4. The participant is under 18 and does not have parent or guardian consent.
5. The participant presents signs or symptoms of withdrawal or any other clear medical condition, or simply requests medical care at the time of intake. The participant will be taken to the emergency room and the placement process may continue once the participant has been released from the hospital.