



Hamilton County Heroin Coalition Task Force



18.0 County Wide Heroin Quick Response Team

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and regulations to enhance the law enforcement response to the life safety needs throughout Hamilton County.

I. DEFINITIONS

QRT - "Quick Response Team" consists of local law enforcement officers and local fire/paramedic personnel. The team will partner with area social service agencies in the provision of drug related follow up.

Addiction Services Council - The Addiction Services Council is a non-profit, community-based organization that provides professional resources on alcohol, tobacco, and drug-related issues. The Council provides programs and services aimed at improving the quality of life for the residents of Hamilton County and surrounding areas.

Addiction Services Council Office

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II. POLICY

A. Heroin and Opiate Overdose Follow-up

1. Police officers are provided the discretion, through their position to enforce the laws set forth in the Ohio Revised Code, as it relates to criminal behavior associated with drug use.
2. The Hamilton County QRT team will partner with trained social workers and counselors from the Addiction Services Council to provide "in-home" triage and assessment of the overdose victim with the immediate goal of connecting the overdose victim with the most appropriate treatment specific to their needs.
3. The team will conduct follow-up, as a means to reduce the deaths associated with heroin and opioid overdoses. Additional responsibilities of the team include:
 - Provide follow-up within three to five days after the initial incident, if possible.
 - Provide short term and long term support to victims and families.
4. The partnership in this response area intends to:
 - Reduce repeated overdose/per victim.



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- Increase education for victims and families, on available resources
- Increase support for victims and families
- Increase intelligence gathering for law enforcement investigations
- Reduce the "secondary victimization" related to the criminal behavior characteristics, associated with addicted persons

5. Any officer can also refer subjects who may not have overdosed, but would still benefit from receiving the services of the QRT team to include counseling or treatment options. Officers wishing to refer subjects to the QRT team should forward information on the incident or the subject to the Task Force Administrative Assistant at [REDACTED] Referrals can be done via phone call, email or text.

III. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

A. Police and fire members of the Quick Response Team (QRT) will wear department authorized uniforms and clothing, depending upon the season. All members of the (QRT) Quick Response Team will be issued polos and each will need to provide their own tan pants.

B. Police officers, assigned and operating as a member of the Quick Response Team (QRT) will carry the equipment and gear necessary to accomplish the duties and responsibilities of a Police Officer, to include a Nasal Naloxone Kit.

C. Paramedics, assigned and operating as a member of the Quick Response Team (QRT) will carry the equipment and gear necessary to accomplish the duties and responsibilities of the Quick Response Team (QRT) Firefighter /Medic.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Jurisdiction

1. The Hamilton County Quick Response Team (QRT) will provide this program/service only in communities with prior approval/agreement of the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of that jurisdiction.

B. Radio Communication

1. The Hamilton County Quick Response Team (QRT) officer will notify via the appropriate jurisdictional communication center, that the Hamilton County Quick Response Team (QRT) is conducting a follow up at each address visited and will notify that communication center when "back in service."

C. Role of QRT Law Enforcement Officer

1. To make initial contact at the address to locate the overdose victim.
2. To provide for the safety of the Quick Response Team members while the team is deployed.
3. To drive the Quick Response Team vehicle to each location.



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4. To assist other members of the Quick Response Team in their law enforcement capacity to meet the goals of the Hamilton County Quick Response Team (QRT) as outlined in this policy.

5. To maintain a QRT daily activity report detailing the following:

- All addresses visited in that day and associated victims name
- Was contact made with the overdose victim?
- If the victim was located, was the victim amenable to treatment options offered?
- Were any other forms to locate the victim developed as a result of the visit? I.e. New phone number, new address, email address, additional family contacts etc.
- Quick summary of the QRT debrief conducted at the end of the QRT day to include any relevant information to be passed onto the QRT manager for the victim, the next QRT day or to improve the success of the program.