

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that over 128,000 people in the State of New Jersey currently use heroin; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey had over 5,000 heroin-related deaths since 2004, more than three times the national average; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey had 781 heroin-related deaths in 2014 alone, the fourth straight year that New Jersey saw an increase; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2014, there were 52,721 drug arrests in New Jersey, 17% of all arrests in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2010, over 184,000 individuals have been admitted to New Jersey substance abuse treatment facilities for heroin or opioid abuse, of which 28,000 sought treatment in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to address the heroin and opioid crisis within New Jersey, the West Orange Police Department (“WOPD”) investigated various programs, including the efforts by the Scarborough, Maine Police Department and the Gloucester, Massachusetts Police Department which implemented policies in their communities in order to encourage addicts to get healthcare services they need, instead of putting them in jail; and

**WHEREAS**, the WOPD has drafted policies and directives in order to implement an initiative called Operation Hope (the Heroin - Opiate Prevention Effort) within the Township of West Orange (“Township”); and

**WHEREAS**, Operation Hope is a voluntary program which seeks to reduce the impact of heroin and opiate abuse on our community while encouraging those who suffer from addiction to seek help and experience recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of Operation Hope, drug users who voluntarily present at Police Headquarters and turn in drugs and drug paraphernalia will not be prosecuted for possession subject to certain limitations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Essex County Prosecutor's Office and the Township's Clergy support Operation Hope and the WOPD's efforts in this initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township will partner with Integrity House, the largest addiction treatment facility funded and licensed by the State of New Jersey, in order to implement Operation Hope and treat those suffering from addiction and encourage recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, Integrity House has agreed to work cooperatively with the Township to provide in-service trainings, team meetings and services for volunteers, the WOPD and others at no cost; and

**WHEREAS**, Integrity House will provide assistance on a 24-hour basis to the WOPD, volunteers and others for supervision and guidance regarding treatment options; and

**WHEREAS**, Integrity House and the Township have agreed to the terms and conditions of an Affiliation Agreement annexed hereto as Exhibit "A."

**NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Township Council of the Township of West Orange that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to execute the Affiliation Agreement with Integrity House, in the form annexed hereto; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall be made available in the Clerk's office for reasonable inspection in accordance with applicable law.

---

**Karen J. Carnevale, R.M.C.**  
**Municipal Clerk**

---

**Victor Cirilo**  
**Council President**

**Adopted: June 14, 2016**