

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, drug-related deaths in New Jersey have skyrocketed in recent years, increasing 53 percent from 2010 to 2012; and

WHEREAS, more than two-thirds of those drug-related deaths were due to prescription drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, nearly one in five teens has tried prescription medication to get high; and

WHEREAS, seven out of the top eleven drugs abused by 12th graders are prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Orange ("Township") recently implemented an initiative called Operation HOPE (the Heroin - Opiate Prevention Effort) in order to assist in addressing the heroin and opioid epidemic within New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, students at Seton Hall University School of Law ("Seton Hall") recently expressed interest in helping to promote Operation HOPE; and

WHEREAS, Seton Hall law students have requested that the Township, the West Orange Police Department ("WOPD") and the Law Department participate in a no cost community based program through the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs called "Project Medicine Drop", which is consistent with Operation HOPE's initiative; and

WHEREAS, Project Medicine Drop deals directly with New Jersey's growing concern for the misuse of excess prescription medication by providing individuals with access to discard unused prescription medications through the use of a medicine drop box in the Township at no cost; and

WHEREAS, there are currently eight drop boxes available in Essex County at the following locations: (i) Bellville Police Department; (ii) Bloomfield Police Department; (iii) Caldwell Police Department, (iv) Glen Ridge Police Department, (v) Irvington Police Department, (vi) Livingston Police Department, (vii) Newark Police Department, and (viii) North Caldwell Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Team (“ADAPT”) has arranged a grant from the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to prevent and minimize substance abuse through Project Medicine Drop; and

WHEREAS, ADAPT is willing to purchase and donate a permanent prescription drug disposal box (“Box”), at no cost to the Township, which will be placed in police headquarters for the purpose of giving members of the public an opportunity to anonymously deposit unused and/or expired medications in the Box in a safe and proper manner; and

WHEREAS, the Box will be affixed firmly and securely to the lobby floor and/or wall of the WOPD; and

WHEREAS, the Box will be located within view of law enforcement personnel and will be monitored via video surveillance with appropriate notices in order to observe the Box; and

WHEREAS, the WOPD will adhere to the rules and regulations of the Box as provided by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, New Jersey Division as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding annexed hereto as Exhibit “A”.

NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Orange that the Township gratefully accepts the donation; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Township is authorized to execute the MOU 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: December 20, 2016