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J-TOWN'S NEW STRATEGY TO COMBAT ADDICTION

(By Amanda Beam)

Sgt. Brittney Garrett wants to save lives through changing attitudes.

Her influence can be seen in the waiting area inside the Jeffersontown Police Department, the law-enforcement agency for which she works. Pamphlets about overcoming substance abuse and local addiction support groups can be found on most every table there.

This lobby welcomes with acceptance, not doubt, supporting the revolutionary initiative Garrett has embraced.

It's called The Angel Program, and it's redefining the way law enforcement views drug addiction.

Through cooperation with community partners, the initiative gives resources to people searching for sobriety.

During their intake hours of 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, the J-Town PD serves as a conduit to connect those who seek therapy for their addiction with providers who can access and provide treatment for their needs. Folks, in most cases, will be immediately taken to a treatment facility to begin their recovery.

People who use can also turn over drugs for disposal to the police without fear of reprisal.

"The hard part isn't coming in," Garrett said of those who enter the station to obtain assistance. "The hard part is getting through your treatment."

Certain exclusions do apply. If you have an active warrant, a felony sex conviction, a violent history or are under 18 years old, you may not qualify. Garrett invites those with questions to phone the station at (502) 267-0503.

Since the program's August 1, 2016 start, seven people have entered the program and been placed directly into residential rehab facilities.

No wait lists. No jail. No criminalization of their illness. Just help is received.

"We have to find innovative ways to deal with the heroin problem," said Garrett, the Angel Program Coordinator. "A lot of it comes down to just being empathetic, compassionate and educated of what we're dealing with."

A NATIONAL SCOURGE

What J-Town and other communities across the nation are dealing with is an epidemic. Heroin use continues to rise, and overdoses soar. Jefferson County on average experiences one overdose death each day.

In addition to health concerns, crime has risen in the town of about 27,000. Increased thefts, general incidence reports and car accidents occur as ramifications of drug use. Garrett has even seen an uptick in more serious offenses as well.

"Especially on the level of law enforcement, when you deal with people with substance abuse disorder on the street, it's always bad. It's never good. It's someone committing a crime," Garrett said.

"It's hard for us to see the human side of addiction, that you committed a crime because of your addiction."

But humanizing those with substance-abuse issues is a hallmark of the program's creation.

THE BEGINNING

The Gloucester Police Department in Massachusetts established the now national initiative in 2015, with the aim of targeting the demand side of the drug problem. Get help for those who are addicted so they stop using, and both supply and crime should go

down too. Furthermore, law-enforcement agencies would face less strain on their limited resources, and be able to concentrate on serious criminal cases.

Not only did they find these actions more compassionate, but also more successful.

So far, roughly 400 people have been referred to treatment facilities through the Gloucester program. As predicted, drug-related crimes in the surrounding area fell by more than 30 percent. Costs for treatment also fall far below the price of housing prisoners, providing another incentive.

"If you have a choice between a bed in incarceration, or a bed in treatment, I'm for the bed in treatment," said Jeffersontown Police Chief Ken Hatmaker.

Enforcement still remains important, he added. When people break the law, consequences must be faced.

But providing treatment opportunities to those suffering from substance-use disorder can stop many of the more serious crimes from happening in the first place, a balancing act between service and enforcement that Hatmaker has learned to embrace.

"That's what it took for me to buy in was the education," the chief said. "When you can have a 33 percent drop in property crime, I'm going to listen."

THE IMPACT

Changing perceptions isn't always easy for law enforcement or those who find themselves addicted. At times, both face stereotypes. The program aims to correct these biases and facilitate greater communication between the police department and the larger community.

"People tend to believe that (substance-abuse disorder) is a moral failing, that people chose to have a life of destruction, which couldn't be further from the truth," said Tara Moseley, a recovery advocate and Angel Program volunteer.

Moseley understands the impact of addiction. For more than five years, the 30-year-old Louisville resident has been in recovery. Now, through her work in organizations like Young People in Recovery and the Angel Program, she tells others with the illness that better days can be in their future.

"People need to know there is a way out and that there is hope," she said. "A program like the Angel Program, they actually do all that stuff for you. They're going to help you and take you where you need to go and make sure you are in somewhere and it's right now."

The immediacy of the initiative plays a key role in its ingenuity. Those seeking assistance oftentimes face long wait lists to get into residential treatment. Not so with the Angel Program.

"Unfortunately, as it relates to the drugs of choice today, it's very possible they are risking their lives by waiting on a waiting list," said Jennifer Hancock, president and CEO of Volunteers of America (VOA) Mid-States, a non-profit partner of Angel Program.

In addition to providing a staff member to help with the station's intake center three days a week, VOA also has placed several of the referrals from the program into its facilities.

"It's important that we strike while the iron is hot and make sure we're providing them with immediate access. Otherwise . . . then they're waiting without the security and safety net of a very structured and accountable program, and it's extremely common that they will continue using."

Through several different initiatives that focus on specific populations, VOA maintains 185 residential treatment beds in Louisville and Lexington. More, though, are needed. Only additional funding can alleviate the overwhelming demand.

And that's the tricky part.

The J-Town Angel Program only facilitates people finding treatment. Funding of that treatment remains with the patient and the medical provider. Some facilities have pledged scholarships to the program, and many others can enroll patients in Medicaid or work with them to manage costs if they can't afford the treatment.

But funding doesn't come close to meeting the demand.

"If we have people lined up at our door, that's great," Garrett said. "But if we can't take them somewhere because there are no beds available, no funding for these treatment centers, we're just turning people away at that point and doing the opposite of what we're wanting to do."

Current legislation in Congress called the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act could give more money to address these broader funding problems for treatment initiatives. But until that occurs, the Angel Program will do its best to continue combating the effects of the addiction epidemic one life at a time.

"We've always been counselors and social workers as law enforcement, mediating conflict and these types of things, but this is a whole new level," Garrett said. "We're entering into a new realm."

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is hard to believe that 15 years ago this Sunday the Twin Towers fell, smoke from the Pentagon could be seen from miles away, and a plane went down in a Pennsylvania field. For those who lived through that horrible day, the memory still feels fresh.

Of course, this is especially true for those who lost loved ones. This weekend, Americans across the country will gather to remember the thousands of innocent lives that were taken so callously and indiscriminately in those terrorist attacks. And we remember the first responders, law enforcement, intelligence, and military personnel who work every single day to keep our country safe.

This year, we must also take a moment to remember the spirit that united us in the days after the attacks. Americans of all races, religions, and backgrounds stood together in solidarity to support one another and stand against the cowardice of terrorism. Following the attacks, President George W. Bush visited a mosque. At a joint session of Congress, he reminded Americans that "no one should be singled out for unfair treatment or unkind words because of their ethnic background or religious faith." In the years after September 11, our country did not always live up to those words, but we must remember the ideals, values, and humanity that sustained us through those first dark days.

In today's political environment, it is easy to lose sight of that common spirit. Some are trying hard to divide us. A Federal judge has been accused of bias because of his ethnic heritage. Religious and ideological tests for visitors to the United States are discussed as though they are serious policy proposals. The sacrifices of war heroes and

Gold Star families are belittled. And that is just the beginning.

On this 15th anniversary of September 11, we must reject this divisiveness. While Americans will continue to mourn the loss of so many on September 11 and in the wars that followed, we will never lose sight of the core principles that so many generations of Americans fought to protect.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this Sunday we will solemnly observe the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks that killed 2,977 people from 93 different nations and injured more than 6,000 others at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a field near Shanksville, PA. For those of us old enough to remember, the events of that horrific day are seared into our memories as if they just happened yesterday. Over 3,000 children lost at least one parent on 9/11. Many of these children were too young at the time to comprehend what was happening or to remember it today, even though they suffered such a devastating personal loss. According to the Census Bureau, nearly 59 million Americans have been born since 9/11. Most of these young people learn about 9/11 in school, much the same way an earlier generation of Americans learned about Pearl Harbor.

For those younger Americans who don't remember 9/11, I think it is important for them to understand that the attacks did not just test our character; they revealed it. The worst attack in American history brought out the best in the American people. Americans responded with courage and self-sacrifice, with charity and compassion and volunteerism and with resolve.

There were incredible acts of individual heroism. "Numerous civilians in all stairwells, numerous burn [victims] are coming down. We're trying to send them down first . . . We're still heading up." So said New York City Fire Department Captain Patrick "Paddy" Brown, Ladder 3, as he and 11 of his men climbed an emergency stairwell in the North Tower, making it to the 40th floor before the Tower collapsed. His remains were recovered 3 months later. Three hundred and forty-three members of the New York City Fire Department and 71 law enforcement officers gave their lives while helping evacuate 25,000 people to safety.

"Are you guys ready? Let's roll."—so said 32-year Todd Beamer as he and other passengers aboard United Airlines flight 93 rushed the cockpit in an attempt to regain control of the jet, which the four al-Qaeda hijackers apparently intended to crash into the White House or the U.S. Capitol. The heroism of the flight 93 passengers undoubtedly saved thousands of lives here in Washington. Todd's wife, Lisa, was one of at least 17 pregnant women who became widows on 9/11; Morgan Kay Beamer was born on January 9, 2002.

There were incredible acts of charity and compassion and volunteerism. The National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center has

documented some of them. Ada Rosario Dolch was the principal of a high school located just two blocks from the World Trade Center. On 9/11, she helped to evacuate 600 students safely; meanwhile, Ada's sister Wendy Wakeford was killed. To honor Wendy's memory, Ada helped to build a school in Afghanistan that opened in 2005.

In 2006, Tad Millinger started the "Walk to Raise" campaign with high school friends Brandon Reinhard, Chad Coulter, and Dustin Dean. They walked 650 miles from their hometown of Rossford, OH, to New York City to raise money for the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center and the Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania. Tad is now a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician in his hometown.

Sonali Beaven was 5 years old when her father, Alan, was killed on Flight 93. "My loss is central to my identity," Sonali has said. "In a sense, each choice I've made since that day has been crafted by my experience. But, because of my loss and the nature of my loss, I choose love and life every day. Because of my father and the other passengers, I can't let fear limit me. I have to take today and every day and try to improve the world we live in and spread the ideology of love."

There has been resolve. We resolved as a nation to bring to justice the people responsible for 9/11. Roughly 2.5 million Americans have served in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; despite the horrors of war and multiple deployments, 89 percent of those veterans say they would join the military again. On May 2, 2011, Navy SEAL Team Six located and killed Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad, Pakistan, in Operation Neptune Spear. The global war on terror is far from over, but I am confident we will prevail. As President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said in his May 26, 1940 fireside chat, "We defend and we build a way of life, not for America alone, but for all mankind."

What I hope our young people—those who don't have a personal memory of 9/11—will understand is that, out of many, we are truly one. That was evident on 9/11, and it is still true. Our partisan, political, philosophical, and regional differences come to the fore during a Presidential campaign. But these differences ultimately are dwarfed by what binds us together as Americans: our hopes for our families, our communities, our Nation, and the world. The best way for all of us to honor those who died on 9/11 is to remember that and act accordingly—courageously, generously, compassionately, and with resolve to defend and promote justice, freedom, and peace at home and abroad.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent from this afternoon's vote on confirmation of the nomination of Peter Michael McKinley to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Federative Republic of Brazil.

On vote No. 137, had I been present, I would have voted yea on the McKinley nomination. I hope the Senate will continue to confirm President Obama's highly qualified nominees in the weeks ahead. •

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for September 2016. The report compares current law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts the Senate agreed to in the budget resolution for Fiscal Year 2016, the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11, and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, P.L. 114-74, BBA 15. This information is necessary for the Senate Budget Committee to determine whether budget points of order lie against pending legislation. It has been prepared by the Republican staff of the Senate Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act, CBA.

This is the sixth report I have made this calendar year. It is the third report since I filed the statutorily required Fiscal Year 2017 enforceable budget limits on April 18, 2016, pursuant to section 102 of BBA 15, and the tenth report I have made since adoption of the Fiscal Year 2016 budget resolution on May 5, 2015. My last filing can be found in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on June 8, 2016. The information contained in this report is current through September 6, 2016.

Tables 1-7 of this report are prepared by my staff on the Budget Committee. Only table 1, which tracks compliance with committee allocations pursuant to section 302 of the CBA, has changed from my previous report due to legislative activity. Of the 16 authorizing committees in the Senate, 14 are in compliance with their allocation over the enforceable 10-year period, Fiscal Year 2017-2026. The two committees not in compliance, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, were pushed out of compliance through passage of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act, PROMESA, P.L. 114-187, and the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, P.L. 114-182, respectively. During this same period, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation reduced direct spending by \$8 million over the 10-year period with the passage of the FAA Extension, Safety and Security