



# Auburn Hills Police Department Media Release



## **Auburn Hills Police to Launch “Hope Not Handcuffs”, a Families Against Narcotics Addiction Recovery Initiative**

**Auburn Hills, MI** - Hope Not Handcuffs is a proactive approach to reach out to people struggling with drug addiction to encourage them to seek recovery and regain control of their lives. Those who ask for help will be welcomed into the Auburn Hills Police Department with compassion and respect. An Angel volunteer will be called to assist participants connect with an appropriate treatment program.

“We are excited to partner with Families Against Narcotics in this important initiative. For people struggling with addiction, we hope to be a conduit to resources that will put them on a successful path to recovery”, said Jeff Baker, Chief of Police for Auburn Hills.

Hope Not Handcuffs (HNH) launched on February 1, 2017 with 19 police departments in Macomb County as well as Ferndale and Harper Woods. Since its inception, HNH has expanded to include over 40 police departments in five counties and have successfully connected more than 900 participants with the resources and treatment they need and deserve.

Hope Not Handcuffs operates in partnership with the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (P.A.A.R.I.) in Gloucester, MA. P.A.A.R.I. was started in 2015 to assist local police departments as they work with opioid addicts. Rather than arrest their way out of the problem of drug addiction, they committed police departments to encourage opioid drug users to seek recovery. More than 300 police departments across 30 states are currently operating similar programs. In October 2017, at the National P.A.A.R.I. Conference, Hope Not Handcuffs was deemed one of the most successful programs in the Country.

### **About Hope Not Handcuffs**

Hope Not Handcuffs is an initiative started by Families Against Narcotics (FAN), aimed at bringing law enforcement, community organizations and volunteers together to find viable treatment options for individuals seeking help to reduce dependency with heroin, prescription drugs, and alcohol. It is a solution. Learn more at [www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/hopenothandcuffs](http://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/hopenothandcuffs)

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