



CITY OF  
**FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
PRESS RELEASE

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**INTRODUCING**  
**THE SEEK THE OTHER**  
**PATH (S.T.O.P) PROGRAM**

**Friday, August 31 is International Drug Overdose  
Awareness Day**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department has partnered with Henderson Mental Health Services and begun a comprehensive program to assist individuals seeking treatment for a substance abuse disorder or drug addiction.

The Seek The Other Path (S.T.O.P.) Program was modeled after the Angel Program as designed by the Police Assisted Addiction Recovery Initiative (PARRI), which promotes law enforcement agencies to provide assistance to those seeking treatment for substance abuse. The program provides the individual with an option to seek treatment without fear of arrest should they be in possession of a user amount of drugs or paraphernalia and meet the criteria to be eligible for the program.

This program is completely voluntary. Voluntary for both the officers who choose to utilize the program and for the person involved to participate.

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department's partnership with Henderson Mental Health Services will assist in providing professional assistance and compassion when individuals with a substance abuse seek an alternative option other than incarceration.

For more details on International Overdose Awareness Day visit <https://www.overdoseday.com/>

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