The 40th Session of the Student Body Senate

Florida International University

Miami, Florida

S.R. 04 019

Stop Addiction Fatality Epidemic (SAFE)

IN THE SENATE

January 16, 2024

Senate President Kaily LaChapelle, Senator Hua Hui Vogel, Senator Erika Noel, Ness Cruz, introduced the following resolution, which was presented on the Senate floor

A RESOLUTION

To advocate to continue to increase harm reduction and recovery services/awareness on campus, as well as strengthen the community for those impacted by addiction and in recovery.

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Body at Florida International University assembled.

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) more than one million people have died since 1999 from drug overdoses (2),

Whereas, according to the CDC fentanyl overdoses are the leading cause of death between those aged 18-45 (2),

Whereas, In 2019, an estimated 8.7% full-time students aged 18-22 years old met criteria for alcohol use disorder (10),

Whereas, a study published in 2016 stated that "more than one-third of full-time college students aged 18 to 22 engaged in binge drinking in the past month; about 1 in 5 used an illicit drug in the past month" (28)

Whereas, the Florida State Government in the Spring of 2023 passed SB 164, Controlled Substance Testing, which changed the definition of the term "drug paraphernalia" and allowing narcotic-drug-testing products used to determine if a controlled substance has fentanyl in it (3),

Whereas, the Florida State Government in the Spring of 2023 passed HB 39, Emergency Opioid Antagonists, which requires the following,

- 1) The bill requires each Florida College System institution and state university to have a supply of emergency opioid antagonists in clearly marked locations within certain residence halls or dormitory residences.
- 2) The bill also requires such emergency opioid antagonists to be easily accessible to campus law enforcement officers who are trained in the administration of emergency opioid antagonists.
- 3) The bill provides civil and criminal immunity to any campus law enforcement officer trained in the administration of emergency opioid antagonists, who administers or attempts to administer an emergency opioid antagonist as authorized under laws related to emergency treatment for suspected opioid overdose and the Good Samaritan Act. The institution that employs the officer who acts in accordance with the provisions of the bill is also granted civil and criminal immunity,
- 4) The bill encourages public and private partnerships to cover the costs of emergency opioid antagonists at Florida College System institutions and state universities (10)

Whereas, according to the Recovery Research Institute "Harm reduction is an approach that promotes health in a way that *meets people where they are at*, accepting that not everyone is ready or capable of stopping their substance use at a given time. Instead of making judgments about where individuals suffering from addiction should be with regards to their health and behavior, harm reduction focuses on promoting evidence-based methods for reducing associated health risks in the current moment (e.g., preventing HIV transmission)." (5)

Whereas, fentanyl test strips (FTS) are a low-cost harm reduction method that utilize small strips of paper to detect the presence of fentanyl within different types of drugs (4),

Whereas, Narcan, otherwise known as naloxone, is a life-saving harm reduction method to reverse drug overdoses (6),

Whereas, the Food and Drug Administration expanded the Narcan expiration date from 2 to 3 years,

Whereas, in nearly 40% of overdose deaths someone else was present (6),

Whereas, "overdose education and training programs teach individuals to recognize the signs of opioid overdose, risk factors for opioid overdose (e.g., mixing opioids with other sedatives, drug potency or purity considerations, high dosage of prescription opioids, using opioids alone), and how to administer overdose reversal medication during an opioid overdose" (5),

Whereas, in the Miami-Dade County in 2022 there was 2,244 total non-fatal overdose emergency department visits, 2,047 total non-fatal overdose hospitalizations, and 179 fatal overdoses (26),

Whereas, in Florida in 2022 there was 45,897 total non-fatal overdose emergency department visits, 28,195 total non-fatal overdose hospitalizations, and 3,776 fatal overdoses (26)

Whereas, according to the CDC in 2022 there was a reported 79,770 drug overdoses reported (27)

Whereas, around two percent of all drug overdoses in the U.S. during 2020 took place in Miami-Dade County and around five percent of all drug overdoses in the U.S. during 2020 took place in Florida,

Whereas, Miami-Dade County has taken measures to address and further prevent the opioid epidemic that is affecting younger generations.

Whereas, in 2018 the Opioid Affected Youth Initiative (OAYI) was started by the Miami-Dade County with partnership of Department of Justice – Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR), and Florida Department of Health as our research partner to develop data collection tools that will inform strategies and programs to be implemented by the County to address specific challenges resulting from the opioid epidemic,

- 1. OAYI Strategic Plan
- 2. OAYI Final Report
- 3. <u>Resolution No. R-1235-10</u>

Whereas, numerous other universities in Florida have taken measures to

Whereas, University of Central Florida,

- 1) Student Health Center focuses on recovery, treatment, and prevention, and support groups,
 - a) Recovery
 - i) Collegiate Recovery Community exists and provides the following services
 - ii) "Helping students find support group meetings that meet their needs
 - iii) Providing connections to mental health professionals (Such as CAPS and Behavioral Health services at SHS) as needed
 - iv) Providing information on family/roommate support
 - v) Connecting students to fellow peers in recovery
 - vi) Being a personal advocate and cheerleader for students' recovery successes"
 - b) Treatment
 - i) There is treatment for substance use disorders as well as process addictions.
 - ii) "Student Health Services Offers the following evidence informed treatments to students with Co-occurring mental health disorders:
 - iii) Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
 - iv) Acceptance and Commitment Therapy
 - v) Medication-Assisted Treatment
 - vi) Relapse Prevention Counseling
 - vii) Mindfulness Training
 - c) Prevention
 - i) Education is given to incoming students on drug use within college
 - ii) Free Narcan is available at the UCF pharmacy
 - d) Support Groups
 - i) Al-Anon. Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings are offered on campus weekly
 - ii) Provides information on meetings near by UCF campus (11)

Whereas, Nova Southeastern University,

a. The Center For Student Counseling and Well-Being By Henderson Behavioral Health is also partnered with Henderson Behavioral Health, a leader in behavioral health care providing comprehensive, recovery-focused services, it is an accredited rehab facility. The Center is located on NSU's campus and students receive 10 free sessions per year (12). Whereas, University of Miami has taken great strides to implement campus and community resources,

- a) Access to 360proof.org/students: an anonymous online tool that shows students judgement free feedback on one's alcohol uses
- b) URecovery: a collegiate recovery community organization is a student run and provides a peer-to-peer recovery network for students in recovery from addiction,
- c) Sober law Students Association has weekly sobriety meetings and can be attended by all students
- d) Narcan and Fentanyl testing strips can be requested through the Sandler Center and student health safety kit pickup program.
- e) Narcan Trainings hosted throughout the year in collaboration with URecovery, Student Health, and F Fentanyl. Attendees receive Narcan when they attend a training (13).

Whereas, Florida State University,

- a. Collegiate recovery program: LIFT (living intentionally, finding togetherness program): goal is to help students exploring recovery or sober living. LIFT has an office on campus and provides meetings, activities, and services around recovery
- b. Offers free Narcan kits containing two doses of nasal sprays
- c. Offers educational sessions throughout the semester on how to administer the Narcan (14).

Whereas, some colleges outside if Florida are part of "Collegiate recovery programs" and leading harm reduction initiatives on their universities nationwide,

Whereas, University of Wisconsin (Wisconsin)

- a) "Live Free" program: peer recovery support program run by students that focuses on wellness and recovery strategies including sober events, guest speakers, workshops, weekly group meetings free Narcan access, university housing specifically has accessible Narcan, Narcan accessible in 13 other locations on campus to ensure entire campus community has access.
- b) Badger Recovery is a program for students to provide recovery services such as meetings, events, and services (15).

Whereas, University of Texas at Austin (Texas)

- a) Substance abuse support team.
 - a. Individual and group specific harm reduction treatment recommendations for relevant coping skills, individual or group counseling, psychiatric service, or off campus referral.
 - b. The substance abuse support team gives training and presentations on substance use, abuse, and prevention. Center for students in recovery which features on campus meetings and events.

c. Narcan is available at the front desk of resident's halls. Available at the security desk of library, and university police department (16).

Whereas, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (North Carolina),

- a) BASICS (brief alcohol screening and intervention for college students) alcohol intervention program and Carolina recovery program which includes recovery and mental health support, recovery coaching and substance use counseling, networking opportunities, substance free social activities (17).
- b) Carolina Recovery Program collaborates with Oxford House to connect students to affordable, substance free recovery housing.
- c) Free Narcan available at campus health pharmacy (18)

Whereas, University of Colorado Boulder (Colorado)

- a) Has a Collegiate Recovery Community and three specific staff on campus "associate director/ assistant director/coordinator of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) and the Collegiate Recovery Center
- b) Counseling and Psychological Services has a weekly Let's Talk Hour with a substance use specialist. Weekly Monday dinner on campus to socialize and eat with those in recovery/recovery allies. Weekly recovery talks about recovery with students and staff.
- c) Specific "Pride in Recovery" Program sessions weekly.
- d) Weekly recovery meetings on campus.
- e) Access to sober housing on campus.
- f) Free Narcan available on campus at health center (19)

Whereas, Stanford University (California),

- a) SUPER Office of Substance Use Programs Education & Resources provide researchbased alcohol and drug prevention and early intervention programs, education and resources for the Stanford community via peer educators and professional staff.
- b) Partnered with Chem-X and County for Fentanyl test strips/Narcan (20)

Whereas, West Virginia University (West Virginia)

- A) Collegiate Recovery has a serenity place, weekly meetings and activities, and full time staff.
- B) Resources are provided on website as well as training on recovery allyship.
- C) There are two scholarships offered for students in recovery doing advocacy (21)

Whereas, Florida International University has taken actions to further combat the addiction epidemic and create a safe space on campus for those in recovery.

Whereas, at FIU there is an Alcohol and Drug Task Force (AOD) with the mission to "address the issues of substance use, abuse, and mental health throughout the FIU community. The goals of the Task Force are as follows:

- 1) Assess FIU campus mental health, alcohol, tobacco and other drug use.
- 2) Review and recommend policies related to substance use and abuse.
- 3) Publicize mental health resources, alcohol, tobacco, and other drug policies, expectations for behavior, and support services for undergraduate, graduate, and employee populations.
- 4) Provide and support education regarding substance use, abuse prevention, and mental health resources for the entire FIU Community.
- 5) Network with external agencies and individuals within the community and state levels to advance the mission of the Task Force.
- 6) Monitor, evaluate, and review the efforts of the Task Force.
- 7) Comply with the <u>Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA)</u>, as articulated in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) Part 86.
- 8) Produce the Biennial Review and Report (7)

Whereas, the Panther for Recovery was founded by alumni Thomas Guerra in 2017 as a student ran organization devoted to supporting and advocating for those recovering from addiction, however no longer has an Executive Board as of now to continue the organization on campus.

Whereas, The Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP) is designed to support students in or seeking recovery from alcohol or drug addiction. The program will provide an educational opportunity alongside recovery support to ensure that students do not have to sacrifice one for the other. The program will include dedicated staff with expertise in recovery, individual and group counseling, a dedicated physical space, 12-step meetings, scholarships and grant opportunities, classes dedicated to addition recovery, academic support, social events, prevention, and sober housing. The CRP will allow students to have an authentic college experience while maintaining their recovery (8)

Whereas, Ignite campaign funded and allowed the program to become institutionalized at FIU (8),

Whereas, one of the responsibilities of the Alcohol and Drug Task Force Chair is to serve as Advisor to the Panther for Recovery,

Whereas, the Alcohol and Drug Task has not released a biennial report since 2020 because of difficulty filling the position of Coordinator/Chair which is a fully funded position,

1. This report outlines recommendations to the university such as fully implementing the CRP and creating a student space for recovery, as well as creating a website to centralize all the information on the AOD and addiction services (25),

Whereas, there are non-profits eager to partner with FIU to continue advocacy for harm reduction and addiction recovery on campus.

- 1. F*** Fentanyl is a South Florida based non-profit that is focused on harm reduction and addiction recovery. F*** Fentanyl is currently working with University of Miami to provide training, resources, and awareness on harm reduction as well as the CRP.
- The Recovery Advocacy Project (RAP) is a national non-profit focused on advocating for addiction recovery policies. The RAP this past year has been circulating petitions in Florida to continue to expand and strengthen both the Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP) and Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC) (23)
- 3. Stop Addiction Fatality Epidemic (SAFE) project is a national non-profit that has collaborated with dozens of higher education fellows in every state of the U.S. to assist with CRPs, harm reduction training, and create a nationwide community focused on the movement to address, prevent, and treat addiction. There have been two FIU student fellows under the Collegiate Recovery Leadership Academy (CRLA) that are assisting with the actions in this resolution, this year's CRLA has representation from 41 universities across U.S. and Canada (24)
- 4. The Association of Recovery in Higher Education (ARHE) "is the only association exclusively representing collegiate recovery programs (CRPs) and communities (CRCs), the faculty and staff who support them, and the students who represent them. ARHE provides the education, resources and community connection needed to help change the trajectory of recovering student's lives. We are a network of professionals, administrators, faculty, staff, students, parents and policy makers. The focus of ARHE is to serve as a national support for propagating and supporting the vision of collegiate recovery programs. ARHE offers time-tested, research and experience-based modeling for fostering and supporting those in recovery who seek to excel in higher education. ARHE is the central authority on the modeling and tailoring of CRP's to best integrate them into the institution, and ultimately to best serve students in recovery" (22)

Whereas, this resolution aims to highlight the research on actions being taken in the South Florida community, nationwide, within Florida colleges, within universities across the nation, all the way back to FIU campus to stop the addiction fatality epidemic and the impact addiction has over someone.

Whereas, the SAFE resolution aims to use this research to show how FIU continues to be a leader and take marvelous strides in the local community, Florida, and the nation to amplify the movement to prevent, treat, recover, and support addiction.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Student Body that this resolution aims to strengthen the existing Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP) by encouraging further collaboration between the Department of Health and Wellness, Orientation and Family Services, Office of , and Department of Access, Compliance, and Equal Opportunity, and Centers for Student Engagement to further promote services offered and education on the risks of addiction within higher education.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved encourages further partnership and support for Panther for Recovery to be able to in the coming years register to be an active club under Registered Student Organization Council (RSOC).

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved in 2020 the AOD Task Force biennial review recommended a dedicated space for Panthers4Recovery student group, this resolution furthers stating there is an urgent need to create a serenity space on campus for those in recovery.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved this resolution strongly supports expanding Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) to include a group counseling session on addiction recovery and support,

1. The group session can should be one session for anyone affected by addiction and recovery and influenced by Al-Anon. Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous frameworks.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved in S.R. 03 011 "Panthers with Disabilities Act" the passed resolution encouraged the mandate of cultural competency training on campus for all faculty/staff, especially under the Department of Student Health and Wellness,

1. This cultural competency training should provide an intersectional lens on culture, communication skills, barriers marginalized students face, implicit bias, and how to foster safe spaces for all students on this campus.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved there is an urgent need to fill the position of Coordinator of The Alcohol and Drug Task Force, release an updated review by 2025, and fully implement the Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP) at FIU,

- 1. The Alcohol and Drug Task Force in the 2020 biennial review (pg12-13) made the recommendation of establishing the Collegiate Recovery Program (CRP),
- 2. It is 2024 and there has been no movement since this recommendation has been made.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved when the Alcohol and Drug Task Force is back to operating, the SAFE resolution finds it imperative to include student representation,

- 1. In the case that the Panthers for Recovery is active, three members of the Executive Board should be invited to serve on this Task Force,
- 2. In the case the Panthers for Recovery is not active, the Chair of the Task Force can appoint up to three students,
- 3. The Task Force should have one student representative minimum.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved the SAFE resolution strongly advocates to implement harm reduction training on campus with departments, student organizations, and Greek Life through a collaboration between non-profits in the community and the Department of Student Health and Wellness,

1. This harm reduction training would include how to administer Narcan in case of an opioid overdose, as well as other harm reduction tactics such as Fentanyl Test Trips.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved due to HB 39 passing in the Florida State Government, the Student Health and Wellness should create a page on the website outlining the measures FIU takes to address addiction, overdose, and harm reduction,

- 1. This includes sharing that Narcan is provided on campus and stating exactly where it is. Along with providing education on how to administer in a case of an opioid overdose,
- 2. This webpage would also include all the resources at FIU and in the surrounding South Florida community.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved this piece of legislation implores FIU Student Health and Wellness to provide free Fentanyl Testing Strips to students and provide this harm reduction tactics in the same places as the Narcan,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the SAFE resolution looks to collaborate between Department of Student Health and Wellness and Student Government Association to host an event in Spring 2024 that would focus on training students on how to administer Narcan, harm reduction, and overall ways to prevent/treat addiction on campus,

1. This can be its own event or included in the Health Fair on campus.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that FIU Board of Trustees, University President, and Division Leadership listen to the recommended actions to improve and strengthen FIU's response to the addiction fatality epidemic and establish FIU as a leader in this movement.

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- 13. "Resources and Support." *Dean of Students*, 7 Nov. 2023, <u>https://doso.studentaffairs.miami.edu/sandler-center/resources-support/index.html</u>
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- 28. A Day in the Life of College Students Aged 18 to 22: Substance Use Facts, https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/report_2361/ShortReport_ 2361.html#:~:text=On%20an%20average%20day%20during%20the%20past%20year%2 C%20453%20part,alcohol%2C%20and%20703%2C759%20used%20marijuana.

Senate Resolution Transmission Form

This resolution is presented by the Senate of the Student Body at Florida International University. It is presented by the Senate President Pro-Tempore and affixed with the signature of the Senate President. Both the Senate President and the Senate President Pro-Tempore affirm that the information presented below is accurate and that the resolution has successfully passed in the Senate of the Student Body. The resolution is presented on this day and at this hour for signature or veto.

SR 04 019			
Date Introduced:	01/16/2024		
Committees Assigned:	(1) Graduate and Professional Student Committee(2) Rules and Administration		
Vote in Committee 1:	5	0	0
01/19/2024	For	Against	Abstaining
Vote in Committee 2:	4	0	0
01/29/2024	For	Against	Abstaining
Vote on the Senate Floor: <i>03/11/2024</i>	24 For	0 Against	0 Abstaining
Signature of the Senate President		Signature of the Senate President Pro Tempore	

Presidential Signature of a Senate Resolution

On this day, at this time, and in this place, the Senate of the Student Body at Florida International University does hereby present this resolution to the desk of the President of the Student Body for signature or veto. The Senate has passed this resolution and all its accompaniments, in accordance with the Constitution and Statutes of the Student Government Association at Florida International University. It is presented in good faith, whereas the officers of the Senate have affixed their signatures to affirm that the resolution has followed due procedure and is valid. The Senate will await your decision.

<u>SR 04 019</u>

Kaily LaChapelle, Senate President

Tiara Campbell, Senate President Pro-Tempore

Karina Hernandez, Senate Floor Leader

