

## Senior Area Vice President Turns Tragedy to Triumph by Helping Others Overcome Addiction

After tragically losing his daughter, Stephenie, to addiction in December, 2015, Linc Service Senior Area Vice President Steve Jesi has been working with the [Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative \(PAARI\)](#) to help others battle addiction.

PAARI, a nationwide law enforcement movement focused on helping steer opioid addicts to treatment and recovery programs, hosted its second anniversary celebration on June 28, in Gloucester, Mass.

During the event, four people received the Stephenie Jesi Memorial Scholarship, which will help each continue their journey toward recovery from addiction.

“It means so much to be able to be a voice and advocate to help those with the disease of addiction to further their journey towards long term recovery,” Jesi said. “Like the majority of addicts, Stephenie came from a good home and loving family.

“We don’t stop caring or providing service to people with diabetes, cancer or heart disease, so we shouldn’t treat this disease any differently. We need to stop the stigma this disease poses on its victims.”

PAARI also celebrated placing more than 550 people into treatment through the Gloucester Police Department’s Angel Initiative, and placing more than 10,000 people into treatment, nationally, through the help of its partner agencies.

“These two years have been truly incredible,” said Allie Hunter McDade, PAARI Executive Director, in a [press release](#). “Our partner agencies have been active participants in a major shift in policy that has helped improve lives and put thousands of people on the road to recovery.”

If you would like to donate to PAARI or get involved, [click here](#).



During the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative’s second anniversary celebration, (from left) John Rosenthal, Co-Founder and Chairman of PAARI; Richard Baum, Acting Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Steve Jesi, Linc Service Senior Area Vice President, marked several landmark events, including awarding four Stephenie Jesi Memorial Scholarships. The scholarship was developed in honor of Jesi’s daughter, who was lost to addiction in December, 2015.