IDAHO METH PROJECT NEW SELTTER MARCH 2009

Economic Study Estimates Meth Use Costs the U.S. \$23.4 Billion

A RAND Corporation study released in the beginning of February called, "The Economic Cost of Methamphetamine Use in the United States," estimates that the national cost of Meth use exceeds \$23 billion annually. The study marks the first time that the annual cost of methamphetamine abuse has been analyzed on a national scale.

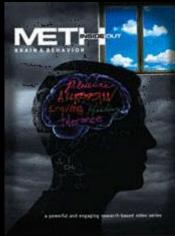
Researchers found that methamphetamine use imposes a significant and disproportionate burden on both individuals and society through money spent on treatment, healthcare, and social services, as well as the costs of crime and lost productivity associated with the drug. The findings highlight the continued need for proven prevention programs, such as the Idaho Meth Project, that can help curb future costs by reducing Meth use and addiction.

According to the RAND study, law enforcement and the criminal justice system bear one of the greatest financial burdens, making up more than 15%-\$4 billion-of the total amount spent on Meth abuse each year. Idaho spends between \$60 and \$102 million annually to incarcerate and treat offenders who admit to having a Meth problem, representing between 32-55% of the Idaho Department of Correction's total budget. Based on the RAND research model and current usage rates in Idaho, Meth use could cost the state of Idaho more than \$300 million each year.

"As we look for opportunities to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, it is clear that the impact of Meth use is monopolizing a tremendous amount of resources on a federal, state, and local level," said U.S. Senator Mike Crapo. "Meth abuse can be prevented-and all of us must continue to work together to ensure that the next generation of Idahoans makes the choice to stay away from this horrific drug."

"The human costs of methamphetamine are incredibly destructive. When you take into account the real fiscal impact of the drug, the situation becomes completely untenable," said Representative Mike Simpson, Idaho's Second Congressional District. "From the moment Governor Otter first brought the Meth Project prevention

New Video Clips on the Idaho Meth Project Web Site Show an Inside View of a Brain on Meth





The Meth Project supported a groundbreaking video called "Brain & Behavior" that is presented by UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, a leading research institution on the topic of methamphetamine, and Eyes of the World Media Group. Clips from this video are now displayed on the Idaho Meth Project Web site allowing visitors to get an inside view into a brain on Meth.

To see these clips, along with other new information about Meth effects on the brain and user, visit: http://www.idahomethproject.org/Meth Info/education.php.

Thank You to Our Major Sponsors

model to my attention, I was an ardent supporter. We will not overcome our Meth problem without a clear strategy that includes aggressive support for prevention efforts."

"Our goal in sponsoring this study was to provide a definitive economic cost estimate of the Meth problem that legislators and regulators can consider while establishing social priorities," said Tom Siebel, founder and chairman of the Meth Project. "This appears to be a preventable problem. The staggering economic and human costs of Meth use can be avoided."

The Idaho Meth Project, a large-scale prevention program aimed at reducing Meth use among Idaho's youth through public service messaging, public policy, and community outreach, first launched in January, 2008. Idaho ranks #7 in the country for lifetime Meth use by high school students. According to prevention experts, reducing Meth use among teens and young adults will have a measurable impact on the number of people who need assistance with drug treatment and recovery later in life. Since July, 2007, the state of Idaho has spent nearly \$500,000 every month on methamphetamine-related treatment, representing more than 40% of the state's total drug and alcohol treatment

The Idaho Meth Project is already beginning to significantly change attitudes about the dangers of Meth among young people. The Project recently released the results of the 2008 Idaho Meth Use & Attitudes Survey, the second statewide survey conducted to examine the attitudes and behaviors that Idaho teens, young adults, and parents have toward methamphetamine. The survey findings show that since the launch of the Idaho Meth Project's prevention campaign, more Idaho teens and young adults view Meth use as dangerous, and they are more aware of the specific, negative effects of trying the drug. Ninety percent of parents say they have talked to their children about the dangers of Meth-with half reporting that a television prompted advertisement the conversation.

To view the full results of the RAND study, please visit www.meihproject.org. To view the complete 2008 Idaho Meth Use & Attitudes Survey report, please visit the Idaho Meth Project's Web site at www.idahomethproject.org.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH Jessica Peebles

















Jessica Peebles from Post Falls is our Idaho Meth Project March Volunteer of the Month. Jessica has gone above and beyond to spread the "Not Even Once" message to teenagers in the Post Falls area. When she was recently assigned to do a classroom project as part her education coursework, she worked with hundreds of 7th grade students at Post Falls Middle School to design recyclable grocery bags around the theme "Not Even Once." Jessica then sold these bags locally to raise money to support the Idaho Meth Project - she has raised over \$305.00 to date! Jessica and her mother-in-law, Margo Peebles, have a great passion for eradicating Meth from our state and we greatly appreciate all they do!

Real Stories

Age: 14 Gender: Male Location: Boise, ID

Since I was young, my father had used meth. He would pick and scratch his face, breaking open pimples that were caused by the meth. It caused him to do some terrible things, such as steal from family members. When he was caught doing this, he was sent to Cottonwood Prison. After he was out, being forced to take random drug tests by his family members, he stopped using. This led to a severe mental breakdown. He realized all the pain he had caused others and what he had become. He couldn't handle it and ended up taking his own life. Methamphetamine ruins families and lives.

To read other real stories visit: http://www.idahomethproject.org/Meth_Info/real_stories.php











"Great Association With Quality Deal Flow"

























CONTACT INFORMATION

Please feel free to contact us with comments, questions, and suggestions. We appreciate your feedback!

Phone:

1-888-331-2060 (toll free)

Email:

info@idahomethproject.org

Physical Address:

304 N. 8th St., Room 446 Boise, ID 83702

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 738 Boise, ID 83701

Join Our Mailing List!



Forward email

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \hline \square SafeUnsubscribe @ \\ \hline This email was sent to $\underline{timpeebles@verizon.net}$ by $\underline{info@idahomethproject.org}$. $\\ \hline $\underline{Update\ Profile/Email\ Address}$ | Instant\ removal\ with\ $\underline{SafeUnsubscribe}^{\mbox{\tiny TM}}$ | $\underline{Privacy\ Policy}$. $\\ \hline \end{tabular}$

Idaho Meth Project | P.O. Box 738 | Boise | ID | 83701

