



Empowering Kansas communities in the fight against methamphetamine

Record

Number 9

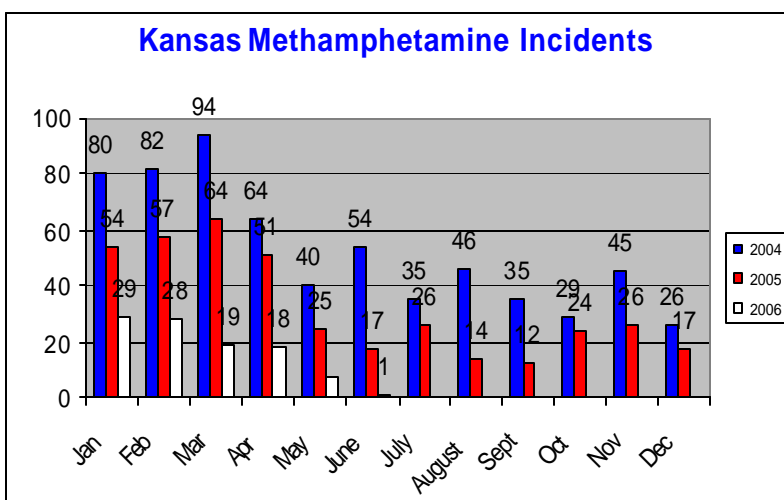
June 2006

Kansas Reports Decline in Meth Labs

According to data provided by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, 101 meth labs were seized in Kansas between January 2006 and May 2006, representing a 60% reduction in seizures from the same time frame in 2005 and a 72% reduction from 2004.

The decline in meth labs in Kansas outpaces the national rate of meth lab reductions. The Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC), reports a 30% drop in meth lab seizures across the United States, from 17,562 in 2004 to 12,185 in 2005.

One likely factor in the reduced number of meth labs in Kansas is the June 1, 2005 enactment of the Matt Samuels Chemical Control Act. Under the law, named after the Greenwood County Sheriff killed in a meth-related incident, cold and allergy medications containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine must be kept behind a pharmacy counter and can be sold only by pharmacists or pharmacy technicians. In order



to purchase the restricted medications, the purchaser must be 18 years of age, show photo identification and sign a log book.

But Kyle Smith, Deputy Director of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, cautions that the dramatic reduction in meth labs does not mean that methamphetamine is no longer a concern in Kansas.

"We never get tired of good news. The continuing downward

trend regarding methamphetamine production means fewer burned babies, exploding trailers and injured officers. However, increased importation and the devastating addiction caused by the drug are still major problems confronting all Kansans," Smith said.

Cristi Cain, Statewide Coordinator of the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project, also hesitates to declare

See Lab Reductions, page 3

Inside the Record

Kansas Drug Endangered Children Conference. . . . 3
 Decontamination Protocol. 4
 Synthetic Drug Control Strategy. 4

Minigrant Awardees. 5
 New Resources 5



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Shawnee Regional Prevention and Recovery Services

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Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Midwest HIDTA

Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services—Addiction & Prevention Services and Children & Family Policy Division

Kansas National Guard

Safe Streets

Kansas Family Partnership

Kansas Farm Bureau

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Kansas Regional Prevention Center System

Regional Prevention Centers provide drug and alcohol prevention education and technical assistance to communities across the state of Kansas.

South Central	Newton, KS	316-283-6743
Wichita/Sedgwick	Wichita	316-262-2421
Flint Hills	Emporia	620-343-2211
Flint Hills	El Dorado	316-321-6628
Southeast KS	Girard	620-724-6281
North Central KS	Salina	785-825-6224
Northwest	Hays	785-625-5521
Northwest	Colby	785-460-8177
Southwest Kansas	Garden City	620-276-9624
East Central	Lawrence	785-841-4138
Johnson/Miami/ Leavenworth	Olathe	913-715-7880
Wyandotte County	Kansas City	913-288-7685
Northeast KS	Manhattan	785-587-4372
Shawnee County	Topeka	785-266-8666

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This newsletter is available to download in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format from the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project website, www.ksmethpreventionproject.org. Follow the "Resources" link to find this and other newsletters.

Kansas DEC Conference Scheduled for August

The 2nd Annual Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children State Conference will be held Wednesday, August 23, 2006 at the Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita, KS. The Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children is pleased to announce the conference will feature two nationally recognized speakers—Jerry Moe and Commander Lori Moriarty.

“The Kansas Alliance is fortunate to have scheduled two outstanding speakers for this event. Mr. Moe and Cmdr. Moriarty are dynamic, engaging presenters with a real passion for their work. I have seen both present at other conferences and am thrilled that we are able to bring them to Kansas,” Loretta Wyrick Severin, Assistant Coordinator of the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project, said.

Jerry Moe will present “Healing for Children from Addicted Families”, which will

address the urgent need for children from substance abuse environments to receive special services, including treatment. An internationally known author and lecturer, Mr. Moe is National Director of Children’s Programs at the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, CA.



Commander Lori Moriarty will present the session “Drug Endangered Children: Taking the Next Step”. This session will address how agencies can overcome barriers and work together for the best interest of children affected by the drug use of parents. Cmdr. Moriarty is Commander of the North Metro Drug Task Force north of Denver, CO. She is the President of the Colorado Alliance for

Drug Endangered Children and is an Executive Committee member of the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children.

The conference will benefit a wide variety of community members including law enforcement, prosecutors, treatment providers, medical professionals, child protective service workers, social service providers and child care providers, among others. Participants will receive six continuing education units.

Funding, in part, was provided through a grant from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Center (Children’s Justice Act) through Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services, Children and Family Services.

Cost of the conference is only \$25.00. For more information and to view the conference flyer, please visit www.ksmethpreventionproject.org. To register on-line, please visit www.parstopeka.com. The deadline to register is August 16.

Lab Reductions

Continued from page 1

that meth is a diminishing threat. “We are pleased with the significant reduction in methamphetamine labs being seized in Kansas. However, methamphetamine remains a significant threat to Kansas communities,” Cain said.

Cain cites rising treatment admissions for methamphetamine as evidence that meth usage is an on-going problem in Kansas. In the months following the June 2005 enactment of pseudoephedrine restrictions in Kansas, 1052 people sought treatment with meth as their

primary problem at admission. That figure represents a 15.7% increase over the same time period the prior year. In fiscal year 2005, an all-time high of 1,997 Kansans sought treatment with meth as their primary problem at admission.

As locally produced methamphetamine has become more scarce in Kansas, meth trafficked from Mexico has met users’ demand for the drug. Kansas law enforcement agencies seized 271 pounds of Mexican meth in 2005, compared to only 22 pounds in 2004, representing an increase of 1,132% (Source:

DEA).

Community-level prevention strategies, including retail efforts and Drug Endangered Children programs, remain critical to reducing the level of the problem in Kansas.

“Communities must remain involved in efforts to address demand for meth as well as efforts to assist children affected by meth use. If we decide the war is won and end our efforts, our communities may experience severe consequences in the future as a result of our inaction,” Cain said.

U.S. Announces First Synthetic Drug Control Strategy

On June 1, 2006 the White House released the Nation's first *Synthetic Drug Control Strategy*. The *Synthetics Strategy* details plans for unprecedented cooperation with Mexico and other international partners to drastically reduce the flow into the United States of both methamphetamine and the precursor chemicals used to produce the drug. The *Synthetics Strategy* calls for 15% reductions in methamphetamine use and prescription drug abuse over the next three years and a 25% reduction in domestic meth labs.

The *Synthetics Strategy* outlines a three-tiered approach to the United States's international efforts: 1) improving intelligence and information on the global market for precursor chemicals; 2) effective implementation of the Combat Meth Act, signed into law by President Bush this March, which sets a national standard for restricting the retail sale of precursor chemicals within the United States; and 3) strengthening law enforcement and border control activities, particularly with Mexico.

The *Synthetics Strategy* also highlights the importance of prevention and treatment in the effort to reduce methamphetamine use and prescription drug abuse.

"We will not let up on the pressure being applied

to the methamphetamine market. The aggressive measures called for in the *Synthetics Strategy* build upon significant progress already made as a result of law enforcement efforts and legislation enacted at the state and federal levels. We are actively working with our allies in the global community—most importantly Mexico, India, Germany and China—to toughen our collective resolve to implement meaningful international supply controls," said Office of National Drug Control Policy Director John Walters.

In written testimony provide to Congress, Sue Thau, Public Policy Consultant with Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), made the following statements, "The *Strategy* essentially repackages the Administration's existing budget priorities for enforcement, treatment, and prevention. It totally ignores the key programs that provide the majority of local infrastructure currently operating to address both the supply of, and demand for, methamphetamine in communities where it has emerged as a crisis."

For more information and to read the complete text of the *Synthetic Drug Control Strategy*, please visit: www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov.

National Alliance Releases Decontamination Protocol

In April, the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children's Scientific and Medical Research Working Group (SMRWG) released a finalized protocol for child decontamination.

The document entitled "Chemical Residual Removal for Children Associated with Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories" provides regional and local Drug Endangered Children partners with a protocol to ensure proper decontamination procedures are performed on children removed from meth labs.

The SMRWG recommends the decontamination protocols be used in conjunction with the National Protocol for Medical Evaluation of Children Found in

Drug Labs.

The protocol includes decontamination recommendations for multiple scenarios including a child in medical distress, a child who has experienced significant chemical exposure, a child who is asymptomatic and shows no signs of chemical exposure and a child who is at school or daycare at the time of the meth lab investigation.

In cases without significant chemical exposure, the recommended protocol is to provide the child with a new set of clothes at the scene. If possible, a warm shower with soap should be administered at the scene. If a non-threatening situation for showering does not

exist, the child's clothing should be changed and the child should be transported to a location where a shower can occur without trauma to the child.

Also of note, the SMRWG recommends that baby wipes not be used as a substitute for a warm shower. In studies, baby wipes have been shown to spread contamination rather than remove it.

For a copy of the decontamination protocol, please contact Loretta Wyrick Severin at lwyrick@parstopeka.com. The protocol will be available on the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children website (www.nationaldec.org) soon.

Kansas Counties Receive Meth Prevention Funds

The Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project (KMPP) awarded over \$37,500 in minigrants for meth prevention activities in April 2006.

Minigrants are small amounts of funding awarded at the county level to community agencies collaborating to implement meth prevention activities.

Twenty-eight Kansas counties received an average award of \$1300. Meth prevention strategies to be implemented with

minigrant funding include community training events, school-based prevention curricula, Drug Endangered Children programs, and town hall meetings.

Funding for the mini-grants was made available through Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) as a result of a federal appropriation. KMPP received the appropriation thanks to the efforts of the Kansas congressional delegation, including Senator Brownback and Con-

gressman Moran.

KMPP distributed more than \$100,000 in meth prevention funding to Kansas communities between June 2005 and June 2006.

Additional funding for mini-grants may become available in Fall 2006. More information will be posted on the KMPP website (www.ksmethpreventionproject.org) when application materials are available.

Congratulations to the 2006 Kansas Meth Prevention Project Minigrantees!

Atchison	Ellis	Jackson	Reno
Barton	Ellsworth	Kingman	Republic
Butler	Franklin	Lyon	Rooks
Chase	Geary	McPherson	Russell
Cheyenne	Gove	Neosho	Sedgwick
Cloud	Grant	Norton	Shawnee
Crawford	Harper	Osage	Stevens

New Resources Available to Raise Public Awareness

KMPP staff have developed several new resources for communities to use as part of public awareness efforts. These new resources include:

- Employee Safety Tip Card: A laminated card containing information for professionals who, due to the nature of their work, may unwittingly enter a home where meth is being used or manufactured. Target audiences for the card include realtors, sanitation workers, cable installers, utility workers and others.
- Safety Tip Cards for Property Owners: Similar to the Employee Safety Tip Card, the card for Property Owners is intended for distribution to landlords and includes information about property inspections.
- Meth Mouth posters: Two posters depicting the

dental decay that can occur as a result of meth use. Each poster has a different message. Only limited quantities of the posters are available.

- Table Toppers: This free-standing, laminated table topper was modeled after table toppers used in several Kansas communities. Information on the table topper includes indicators of meth use, impacts of meth activity in communities and Kansas meth statistics. The table topper is intended to be displayed in a variety of settings including restaurant, school cafeterias, employee break rooms, retailers, medical offices and community buildings.

For more information or to order the above materials, please contact Loretta Wyrick Severin at (785) 266-8666 or lwyrick@parstopeka.com.