

THE COALITION

The Gila County Meth Coalition is sponsored by a grant through the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families and the Gila County Sheriff's Office and Gila County Narcotics Task Force. The coalition consists of members of local law enforcement, treatment community, recovery community, businesses, citizens, healthcare, and other community based action groups.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The Gila County Meth Coalition offers presentations for the prevention of methamphetamine to all types of groups; such as, schools, businesses, civic organizations, neighborhood watch programs, religious organizations, etc.

INFORMATION

Methamphetamine hurts not just individuals, but families, neighborhoods and entire communities.

Methamphetamine is a powerfully addictive and violent drug. Its use can result in fatal kidney and lung disorders, brain damage, liver damage, chronic depression, paranoia and other physical and mental disorders. Recent studies have demonstrated that meth causes more damage to the brain than alcohol, heroin, or cocaine.

Meth harms the environment. The chemicals used to make meth are toxic, and the lab operators routinely dump waste into streams, rivers, fields, and sewage systems. The chemical vapors produced during cooking permeate the walls and carpets of houses and buildings, making them uninhabitable. Cleaning up these sites requires specialized training and costs an average of \$2,000-\$4,000 per site in funds that come out of

already strained budgets of state and local police.

Hundreds of children are neglected every year after living with parents who are meth "cooks". More than 20% of meth labs seized have children present.

Meth is not just a big city problem.

Meth has become the most dangerous drug problem of small-town America. Traffickers make and distribute the drug in some of our Country's most rural areas. Twelve to fourteen year old children who live in smaller towns are 104% more likely to use meth than those who live in larger cities.

Methamphetamine use increases energy and alertness and decreases appetite. An intense rush is felt, almost instantaneously, when a user smokes or injects methamphetamine. Snorting methamphetamine affects the user in approximately 5 minutes, whereas oral ingestion takes about 20 minutes for the user to feel the effects. The intense rush and high felt from methamphetamine results from the release of high levels of dopamine into the section of the brain that controls the feeling of pleasure. The effects of methamphetamine can last up to 12 hours. Side effects include convulsions, dangerously high body temperature, stroke, cardiac arrhythmia, stomach cramps, and shaking.

Chronic use of methamphetamine can result in a tolerance for the drug. Consequently, users may try to intensify the desired effects by taking higher doses of the drug, taking it more frequently, or changing their method of ingestion. Some abusers, while refraining from eating and sleeping, will binge, also known as "run," on methamphetamine. During these binges,

users will inject as much as a gram of methamphetamine every 2 to 3 hours over several days until they run out of the drug or are too dazed to continue use.

Chronic methamphetamine abuse can lead to psychotic behavior including intense paranoia, visual and auditory hallucinations, and out-of-control rages that can result in violent episodes. Chronic users at times develop sores on their bodies from scratching at "crank bugs," which describes the common delusion that bugs are crawling under the skin. Long-term use of methamphetamine may result in anxiety, insomnia, and addiction.

Meth use in Arizona continues to be a growing problem that needs to be addressed by the entire community.

We all hold a valuable position in developing a solution to this prevalent and preventable problem.

For Treatment please contact:

Southwest Behavioral Health Services
404 W. Aero Dr.
Payson, Arizona 85541
(928) 474-3303

Horizon Human Services
478 Hagen Hill Rd.
Globe, Arizona 85501
(928) 402-9297

Payson Regional Medical Center
(928) 474-3222

Cobre Valley Community Hospital
(928) 425-3261

Signs of Meth Use:

- Hyperactivity
- Irritability
- Paranoia
- Weight Loss
- Visual & Auditory Hallucinations
- Aggression
- Suicidal tendencies
- Itching (illusion of bugs on the skin)
- Welts on skin
- Involuntary body movements (tweaking)
- Shortness of breath
- Increased blood pressure
- Sweating
- Insomnia (up for 3-5 days without sleep)
- Severe depression
- Convulsions
- Rotting teeth
- Pre-mature aging
- Long periods of sleep (crashing 24-48 hours)
- Acne, sores
- Panic/Anxious
- Repetitive motor activity
- Increased alertness
- Excessive talking

If you are interested in hosting a meth presentation please contact any of the following individuals:

Commander Steven Craig
Gila County Narcotics Task Force
(928) 595-3805

Bureau Commander Claudia DalMolin
Gila County Sheriff's Office
(928) 402-8572

Jimmy Oestmann
Gila County Narcotics Task Force
(928) 474-0728

To Report Suspected Use/ Abuse/Manufacture/Transportation

Call **9-1-1** for any emergency

Gila County Sheriff's Office - Payson
(928) 474-2208

Gila County Sheriff's Office - Globe
(928) 425-4449

Gila County Narcotics Task Force - Payson
(928) 474-0728

Gila County Narcotics Task Force - Globe
(928) 473-7917

Payson Police Department
(928) 474-5177

Globe Police Department
(928) 425-4436

Miami Police Department
(928) 473-2466

Hayden Police Department
(520) 356-7801



Gila County Meth Coalition



"Meth...Gateway to Death"

Offering Educational Presentations
for the Prevention of
Methamphetamine Use/Abuse