

IDAHO METH PROJECT

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009

Support the Idaho Meth Project with a Carnival Wristband Pledge at the 2009 Western Idaho Fair



This summer, the Idaho Meth Project will host the 1st Annual "Not Even Once Night" (N.E.O.N.) at the Western Idaho Fair on Friday, August 21st.

N.E.O.N. will be entirely focused on teens and will provide an excellent opportunity for the Idaho Meth Project to reach out to this target audience. In partnership with Treasure Valley radio station, KISS-FM, teens will be encouraged to vote on their favorite bands to play at N.E.O.N.

In addition to music, the Idaho Meth Project's teen volunteers will organize fun and educational activities that will reinforce the program's Not Even Once message. All of the events at N.E.O.N. are being developed and organized by local teens -- and these teens will then be responsible for running the N.E.O.N. activities on August 21st.

As an added bonus, Western Idaho Fair and Impact Radio are working to help the Idaho Meth Project raise \$20,000. To do this, we are asking anyone - businesses, individuals, organizations, families - to match each carnival wristband sold on-site at the 2009 Western Idaho Fair in Boise. (Example: 1 cent pledged X 30,000

First Lady Lori Otter Appointed to National Meth Project Foundation Board of Directors



The Meth Project announced this month the addition of Idaho First Lady Lori Otter to its Board of Directors. The program first launched in Montana in 2005, where it has achieved substantial results. Meth use among teens in Montana has declined by 45%, Meth-related crime has dropped 62%, and workers testing positive for Meth have declined by 72%. The Meth Project has since expanded its programs to additional states, including Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, and Wyoming.

"When Governor Otter was sworn into office in 2007, Idaho ranked #5 in the nation for Meth use. We faced a devastating problem that threatened the health and wellbeing of our most vulnerable citizens-our young people," said Lori Otter, First Lady of Idaho. "We partnered with community leaders across the state, raising awareness about Meth addiction and securing funds to bring the Meth Project to Idaho. As a member of the Meth Project's board, I will share my experiences working on behalf of the Idaho Meth Project with elected officials around the country to raise awareness about the power of

wristbands sold = \$300 donation.) Approximately 35,000 wristbands are sold on-site at WIF each year.

All pledge partners will be formally recognized during the fair, and anonymous donors are welcome too! To sign up, please contact IMP Fund Development Manager Mandy Macomb at mmacomb@idahomethproject.org or (208) 631-7300.

Volunteer of the Month Don De Les Dernier'



Don De Les Dernier', a District 1 Idaho Meth Project volunteer from Rathdrum, joined the Idaho Meth Project volunteer team in mid 2008, and has been a powerful force in spreading the "Not Even Once" message throughout North Idaho. Don has spent a great deal of his personal time meeting with city officials and people of influence in order to open doors for the Idaho Meth Project.

Don has been involved in dozens of classroom presentations as he is passionate about encouraging teens to avoid meth through his powerful personal testimony.

Don is also a great booth representative and helps locate events to fill our calendar and increase IMP's visibility in District 1. We just couldn't do all that we have done without Don!!

Upcoming Community Outreach Events

Throughout this summer, the Idaho Meth Project will be involved in a variety of community events and presentations to educate young people and parents about the realities of Meth use. Following is a list of several of the upcoming events where Idaho Meth Project volunteers will have a presence. Please let us know if you have additional ideas on activities the program should be involved in - we are constantly seeking ideas for outreach opportunities and welcome your input!

- **July 24** - Teen Pool Party (Borah Pool, Boise)
- **July 24-26** - Julyamsh/Coeur d'Alene Tribe (Post Falls Greyhound Park)
- **July 24-26** - POW MIA Awareness Rally and Motorcycle Rodeo (Bannock County Fairgrounds, Pocatello)
- **July 31-August 2** - Coeur d'Alene Street Fair (Downtown Coeur d'Alene)
- **August 1** - National Night Out Crime Prevention Fair (Lakeview Park, Nampa)

this prevention model."

First Lady Otter has been a vocal supporter of the Meth Project's efforts to prevent Meth use. She has addressed leaders from county governments, state attorneys general, and congressional delegations on behalf of the Meth Project. On April 2, 2008, First Lady Otter testified on Capitol Hill before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies to underscore the need for continued funding for methamphetamine prevention.

"Governor and First Lady Otter showed incredible leadership in bringing the Meth Project to Idaho," said Aruna Gambhir, executive director of the Meth Project. "She has worked tirelessly to raise awareness about Meth throughout the entire state of Idaho with all citizens from young people in schools, to statewide and local leaders. We are honored to have Lori Otter provide her experience and talent to guide the Meth Project's work."

Thank You to Our Major Sponsors



- **August 6-9** - Snake River Roaring Youth Jam (Snake River Greenbelt, Idaho Falls)
- **August 7** - Teen Pool Party (Natatorium Pool, Boise)
- **August 7-8** - Bam Jam (BoDo - Boise)
- **August 8** - Y.E.S. Drug Free Community Event (Spirit Lake City Park)
- **August 12** - Community Fun Night (Nampa Civic Center, Nampa)
- **August 21** - N.E.O.N. at Western Idaho Fair (Western Idaho Fairgrounds)
- **September 2-7** - Twin Falls County Fair
- **September 13** - Hispanic Outreach Event with Bustos Media (Lakeview Park, Nampa)

Real Stories

Age: 31

Gender: Female

Location: Twin Falls

I started using meth when I was fifteen. I told myself that no one knew and that I could stop anytime. It took getting pulled over and losing my children to the state to make me realize that I needed help. I sought treatment. I had to pee in front of people to test if I was still using. Most of all I had to fight to get my children back. I lost my dignity and my family due to my meth use. I have my children back and I have been clean for 3 years. I am changing my life. I have gone back to school and am working for a degree in Criminal Justice.

To read other real stories visit:

http://www.idahomethproject.org/Meth_Info/real_stories.php

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Contact Us

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

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