

IDAHO METH PROJECT

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2009

Meridian Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Raises Funds for the Idaho Meth Project



On April 29th, the Meridian Mayor's Youth Advisory Council - which includes high school students from throughout the Meridian School District - organized a fundraising event to support the ongoing work of the Idaho Meth Project. Choosing the theme "One Dinner, One Night, Save More Than One Life," the high school students leveraged the support of the local community to donate items for a silent auction and to obtain table sponsors for the dinner. Business and political leaders, along with concerned Meridian citizens, attended the event which included a special dinner prepared by culinary students from Renaissance High School.

Idaho Meth Project volunteer Anthony Bell, a 19-year-old former Meth user, shared his personal experience of Meth abuse. Special thanks to the members of the Meridian Mayor's

Visit the Idaho Meth Project on Facebook and MySpace

Over the past several months, the Idaho Meth Project has ramped up the program's presence on social networking websites, Facebook and MySpace. The Idaho Meth Project is updating both of these sites on a regular basis to keep our supporters updated on upcoming events, announcements, photos and more! We encourage you to become a member of the Idaho Meth Project pages on either of these sites - you can even donate online by joining the Idaho Meth Project Cause on Facebook!

Thank You to Our Major Sponsors

Youth Advisory Council for their continued support of this important initiative!

Idaho Meth Project Partners with COSSA to Present at Rural High Schools



Parma High School



Wilder High School

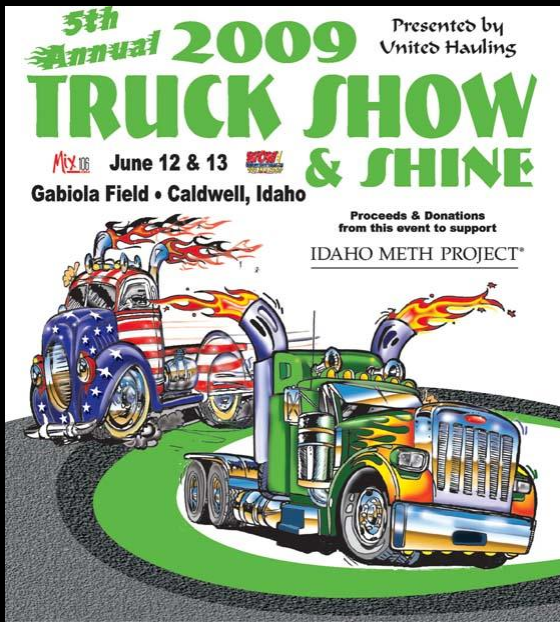
On April 27th, the Idaho Meth Project partnered with COSSA (Canyon Owyhee School Service Agency) to present in elective health classes in Parma, Marsing, Homedale, Wilder and Notus. COSSA provides professional and technical training classes that would otherwise be financially impossible for these schools on their own.

Nadine Jemmett, the Intro to Health Professions teacher for COSSA and nurse of 23 years, provides specialized training to students interested in careers in healthcare. Acutely aware of the Meth problem in rural areas, Nadine invited the Idaho Meth Project to present as a kick-off to the classes' drug education and prevention week.

Overall, the presentations were well received and COSSA plans to invite the Idaho Meth Project back next school year. In total, the Idaho Meth Project was able to reach nearly 100 students in these rural communities.



United Hauling Truck Show & Shine to Benefit the Idaho Meth Project



On June 12th & 13th, 2009, United Hauling will host the 5th Annual Truck Show & Shine at Gabiola Field (next to Simplot Stadium) in Caldwell, Idaho. The Idaho Meth Project is thrilled to be this year's charitable organization that will benefit from the proceeds of this event.

This family-friendly event begins on Friday, June 12th, with Special Olympics of Idaho's "World's Largest Truck Convoy." On Saturday, June 13th, from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, the Truck Show & Shine will be open to the public - the event is free, although people will be encouraged to make a donation to the Idaho Meth Project. Throughout the day, Idaho Meth Project volunteers will share their personal stories of Meth addiction. The event will also feature a variety of performances and activities, including a special video tribute to Old Glory and our Troops from "The Big Guys."

Mark your calendars for this exciting event! To keep updated on the schedule of activities, please visit the 2009 Truck Show & Shine website at:
<http://www.unitedhaulingtruckshow.com>

**Volunteer of the Month:
 Rebekah Vallin**



MONSANTO



Expect the Best!

CANYON COUNTY SHERIFF

Chris Smith
 Sheriff

Gary Deulen
 Chief Deputy

i:w
 c:f

Idaho
 Women's
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Rebekah Vallin is a 42 year-old recovering addict and alcoholic who began using Meth at the age of 24. Sober from alcohol since 1999 and from Meth since 2004, Rebekah has been a dedicated Idaho Meth Project volunteer since the very beginning. An Idaho Falls resident, Rebekah works closely with Penny Howe, our District 7 Volunteer Chair. Penny speaks very highly of Rebekah and her dedication to the project. "Rebekah is so knowledgeable, and always ready and willing" says Penny. "She is at every event, every meeting, and has such a powerful story to tell people."

Rebekah is the mother of three children (ages 20, 15 and 10) and a grandmother of one. She lost her children because of her addiction, but since becoming clean has regained custody and restored relationships with two of them. She is focused on her family and on her future, which includes continuing her work with the Idaho Meth Project.

Real Stories

Age: 15
Gender: Female
Location: Idaho

I have a group of friends, there was seven of us. None of us knew that Idaho was really a big meth place, until my two best friends started doing different drugs. It first started out as Nines and Dmx, all those cough medicine pills, then weed. After they got sick of the weed and all those other pills one of them went to meth.... We didn't know he was doing it til his body changed, he got skinny and he smelled way bad. His girlfriend (my other best friend) yeah they were dating. She was so scared he was going to get caught, well he did. Now he's in rehab somewhere in Montana and right before he went, he texted his girlfriend. Me and her were together then and it said "I can already feel my insides being ripped out of me, I'm slowly suffocating." Me and her broke down and cried. It still hurts and it always will. It just didn't affect him! It affected his family and his friends! And we didn't even do the drug and it's tearing us apart. I hate meth and all those other drugs. It kills.....

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



CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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