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**Idaho Meth Project begins second year of Anti-Meth campaign**

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This is year two of campaigning for the Idaho Meth Project. This week they rolled out the next wave of advertisements came out aimed at preventing teens against drugs. Some say these are more graphic than before.

In the 2008 survey, 83% of teens and 91% of young adults strongly disapprove of trying meth once or twice. This is up 3 percent and 6 percent respectively.

Melina Gritton, Area Chair of the Idaho Meth Project says, "I mean I can tell you just from personal experience, it only takes only once to be addicted and that's our main goal to keep our children in our areas that haven't been touched by it, not be touched by it."

But there is still work to be done, as 3 percent of teens and 14 percent of young adults surveyed say they have tried meth, both are stable to the 2007 survey.

TFPD Captain Matt Hicks says, "Unfortunately methamphetamine abuse continues to be a problem in our community and remains a problem for the department. We increased our drug arrests for methamphetamine by 25% last year and we're looking to continue a very aggressive enforcement policy when it comes to methamphetamine use in town."

Hicks says in 2008 they made 125 arrests for methamphetamine compared to 99 the year before; and there were more than 326 drug arrests, one third of them due to meth. In terms of tracking meth to other crimes such as property crimes and crimes of violence, he says it's difficult to do.

Hicks says "A lot of people who are engaged in those activities are doing that because of their addiction to methamphetamine holds true and I know a lot of entities here in town and statewide that are trying to battle that on multiple levels."

If you would like more information on the Idaho Meth Project, please contact Melina Gritton at (208) 825-9322, email her at [melismee@yahoo.com](mailto:melismee@yahoo.com), or visit their webpage at [idahomethproject.org](http://idahomethproject.org)