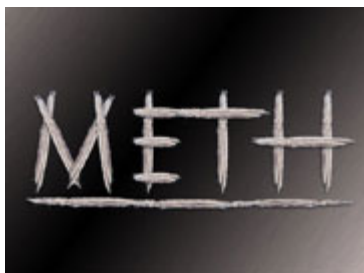




Idaho Falls Meth Family Forum

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If you have children, you know how important it is to talk with them about everything. But have you talked to them about drugs?

A year ago, eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center along with the Idaho Meth Project organized a family forum to help parents and kids understand the risks and how to talk about drugs at home.

Cindy Smith-Putnam/EIRMC: "I'm only going to do meth once...I'm not going to end up like that guy."

The ads are disturbing...but then again, they are supposed to be... Depicting life addicted to meth...and they aren't just on tv. You can see them on numerous billboards as well.

Cindy Smith-Putnam/EIRMC: "It would be impossible to drive past one of those very riveting, very disturbing billboards as a ten year old in the car with a mom and not have that ten year old speak up and say mom...what's the deal with that."

The ingredients in meth range from toilet bowl cleaner to flammable battery acid. Yet, despite the contents in the drug itself.

Cindy Smith-Putnam/EIRMC: "Almost every ingredient used to manufacture meth has a skull and cross bones on it in terms of hazardous material - not meant to be ingested."

Meth is not only being used frequently by teens in eastern Idaho...but many simply can't stop.

Cindy Smith-Putnam/EIRMC: "The statistic is, if four people each were to recklessly try meth one time - three of the four would become addicted."

Meth is almost three times more addictive than cocaine, nicotine, sex, and food...based on the euphoria it causes in the human brain.

The program Tuesday night will answer many questions...geared toward both teens and parents...

Cindy Smith-Putnam/EIRMC: "What does meth look like? Where are kids getting it? How would I know if my kid was being pressured to use it, how would I know if my kid was using it? How would I know if it was being sold in my neighborhood? That kind of baseline 101 information that parents really need to have so they can start a good conversation with their kids about why they shouldn't even try it even once."

The program will be held at the colonial theatre in Idaho Falls starting at 7pm. It's free to the public and is a first come first serve basis.

Again, due to content - children under the age of ten should not attend.