



Mesa County Meth Task Force Community Report 2008

Enforcement

A number of very exciting things happened in Enforcement in 2007! They include:



Felony filings have increased 3.5% since 1999.



Felony filings in burglary, forgery, fraud, and homicide all decreased in 2007 while felony drug filings increased 19%. This may be a result of the "Street Crimes Unit" and the "Overlap Team" arresting those in possession of felony drugs before other crime is committed.



Fast Track continues to offer treatment options in Mesa County.



Mesa County was awarded a COPS grant for almost \$500,000 to assist in funding the "Street Crimes" & "Overlap" Units, evaluate their work, and also improved communication systems.

Drug Endangered Children (DEC)

DEC was a very busy committee in 2007. Here are a few accomplishments:



Implemented the Memorandum Of Understanding between Law Enforcement and Department of Human Services (DHS). This agreement ensures communication between the agencies protecting the children in drug arrests.

Approximate number of children referred by an Enforcement Agency: 80

- Aged 0-10 investigated: 60
- Aged 11-18 investigated: 20

Approximate Percentage of children placed out of the home: 37%

- Of these placements how many went to a kinship provider: 60%

The approximate percentage of types of arrests

- Possession: 75%
- Use: 15%
- Distribution: 10%

Referrals made by law enforcement when DHS had a prior referral: 69%



Created and distributed 100 "tool kits." These kits provide information for opened communication between the foster parent and children, fun and educational interaction including life skills lessons. The foster parent tool kits also are a base for developing more tool kits in the future for teachers, biological parents, and many others.



Kidz Klub was created and implemented by DHS and Colorado West Mental Health. This group is specifically for children who have lived in substance abusing homes.



Developed a brochure educating citizens how to identify a child who might be abused or neglected as a result of their care-givers use of meth

Prevention

Prevention worked in 2007 with community partners to accomplish goals. A few undertakings include:



The Free Press published a weekly prevention article educating the community.



Teen Leadership Commission published the 2nd Annual Teen Activity Guide – a comprehensive list of activities for youth in Mesa County – including entertainment, education and volunteer opportunities. 12,000 copies were printed and distributed. Grand Junction Free Press provided printing.



We trained more than 60 local professionals in “Lions Quest”, a prevention curriculum.

Treatment

The Treatment Committee had a very busy 2007! A few events include:



Summit View County Treatment Facility opened May 2007. They are excited to report successes already.

Successful Completion Rate: 75%

Total Number of Intakes: 42

Populations Served:

Volunteers 10

Fast Track 2

Condition of Probation 2

Community Corrections 27

Other 1



Treatment Scholarship criteria has been created. We are seeking funding for this.



Share and Care, a family support group was formed. Each group meets for a six week session on Wednesdays at noon at the First Presbyterian Church. In 2008 we would like to expand the groups but need funding to do so.



Adult Mentoring Program was developed - it will serve to mentor meth users in recovery and will be modeled after mentoring programs for youth. Funding needs to be secured.

Community Involvement & Education

In 2007, we focused on educating the public and are excited to report the following:



Developed brochures to educate the hotel/motel managers, storage unit managers and landlords about how to identify possible meth labs and what do to about it.



We were involved in the State Meth Task Force.



We made over 80 presentations.



Grand Junction Rotary held their second annual Masquerade Ball in October and raised money for needs of Drug Endangered Children.



Robert Cogdon completed a documentary which will premier in 2008 and then will air on Channel 12.



Community Meetings in 2008 will be:

Date/Time	Subject	Location
1 st Thursday 5/1 @ 7:30 a.m.	Lead by Dan Rubinstein, Committee Chair, the Enforcement Committee will report to the Community about their progress on the strategic plan.	Grand Junction City Hall Auditorium
1 st Thursday 8/7 @ 7:30 a.m.	Lead by Dennis Berry, Committee Chair, and Audra Stock, Committee Chair, the Treatment Committee will report to the Community about their progress on the strategic plan and offer ways to get involved.	Grand Junction City Hall Auditorium
1 st Thursday 10/2 @ 7:30 a.m.	Lead by Heather Benjamin, Committee Chair, and Rebecca Schwerdtfeger, Chair, the Drug Endangered Children & Prevention Committee will report to the Community about their progress on the strategic plan and offer ways to get involved.	Grand Junction City Hall Auditorium