

Meth & Families Quarterly Newsletter



Overview of the Meth and Families Committee

The Meth Strike Force recognizes the need for trauma-informed intervention that includes the whole family. Many people develop substance use disorders after living through trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Some risk factors include having a parent with a substance use disorder, losing a parent, having an incarcerated parent, experiencing physical or sexual abuse and many others. When a child can be part of a parent's recovery, the child can develop a sense of resilience and strength in their family.

In San Diego County, we see the intergenerational nature of meth addiction and strive to support families recovering together.



www.no2meth.org

Program Spotlight

Understanding the Drug Endangered Children (DEC) and Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) Programs

Drug Endangered Children (DEC) and Child Welfare Services (CWS) Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) programs were developed to support and coordinate the Child Welfare Service and Law Enforcement Partnership in a joint effort to streamline communication and protocols to ensure safety for children in our community.

The Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Program:

- Allows CWS and LE to work together to make timely and appropriate safety decisions on behalf of children located in crime scenes and homes where children are exposed to narcotics, drug use, manufacturing, possession, and/or the selling of controlled substances.
- Relieves LE of the burden of making placement decisions for children, when a parent is being detained, and facilitates CWS investigations.
- Improves the safety and health of children exposed to drug use and the chemicals associated with the manufacture, production of these drugs by providing appropriate medical services and toxicology testing.
- Recognizes that DEC children are crime victims and facilitates a criminal investigation on child endangerment issues, when appropriate.

The Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) Program:

- Fosters relationships between various LE jurisdictions and CWS, which allows officers to have a single accessible point of contact with CWS.
- Expedites communication and shared information between agencies.
- Provides ongoing training by CWS for LE and LE for CWS to enhance service delivery for children and families in San Diego County.

Resources

Local

- <https://www.no2meth.org/> or 1-877-NO-2-METH
- Access and Crisis Line: 888-724-7240
- 2-1-1 SD or (858) 300-1211
- San Diego County Behavioral Health Services (619) 563-2700

National

- SMART Recovery: <https://www.smartrecovery.org/>
- Alcoholics Anonymous: https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US
- Narcotics Anonymous: <https://www.na.org/>
- Al-Anon: <https://al-anon.org/>
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255
- SAMHSA's National Helpline: 1-800-662-4357

