



County of Mendocino
Grand Jury

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WHAT METHAMPHETAMINE IS COSTING YOU

SUMMARY

According to local law enforcement and social services agencies, crimes related to the use, possession, and manufacture of methamphetamine have reached epidemic proportions in Mendocino County. The intent of this report to help the community to identify the symptoms of methamphetamine use, its affect on the environment, and the programs and services that are available to victims of methamphetamine in Mendocino County.

BACKGROUND

Amphetamines were originally intended for use in nasal decongestants and bronchial inhalers and do have limited medical applications. Methamphetamine, a derivative of amphetamine, is a powerful stimulant that affects the central nervous system. Methamphetamine can be smoked, snorted, orally ingested, and injected; it is accessible in many different forms and may be identified by color, which ranges from white to yellow and darker colors such as red and brown. Methamphetamine is also known as "speed" or "crystal" when it is swallowed or snorted, as "crank" when it is injected, as "ice" or "glass" when it is smoked.

Household products contain most of the necessary chemicals to complete the manufacturing process. Items such as isopropyl or rubbing alcohol, brake cleaner, engine starter, drain cleaner, matches, road flares, salt, iodine, batteries, gun scrubber, MSM, sodium metal, gasoline additives, muriatic acid, farm fertilizer, lye, cold tablets containing pseudo-ephedrine or ephedrine, acetone and cat litter can be used. The necessary equipment is just as common: Pyrex or Corning dishes, bottles, paper towels, coffee filters, thermometers, cheesecloth, funnels, blenders, rubber tubing, gloves, buckets, gas cans, tape, clamps, aluminum foil, propane cylinders, hotplates, plastic storage containers, ice chests, measuring cups, towels, bed sheets, and laboratory beakers.

Drain cleaner when mixed with salt produces hydrogen gas for use in the final stage of methamphetamine production. The hydrogen chloride gas procedure (as well as other procedures used in the manufacture of methamphetamine) is extremely dangerous and may cause death or serious injury, not only to the individuals making the methamphetamine, but also to others who may be nearby.

Methamphetamine producers have been known to leave waste at the site, dump it into streams and rivers, spread it out over open fields, dump it into sewage systems, or leave it in garbage bags for the local trash collector. Motel or hotel rooms may be used

for the purpose of manufacturing methamphetamine, which may result in toxic fumes that expose other guests and the cleaning staff to health hazards. The chemical vapors produced during the manufacturing process permeate the walls and carpets, making the rooms uninhabitable. Cleaning up these sites requires specialized training and costs that can average into the thousands of dollars per site, in funds that come out of the already strained budgets of state and local agencies. Property owners also face the burden of clean-up costs.

METHODS

The Grand Jury interviewed employees of the Mendocino County Superior Court, the District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Department, the Correctional Department, the Major Crimes Task Force, the Probation Department, the Department of Social Services, the Mental Health Department, the Office of the Public Defender, and the Public Health Department. Also interviewed were employees of the Willits Police Department, the Fort Bragg Police Department, and the Ukiah Police Department. Also interviewed were employees of the Ford Street Project, Project Sanctuary, the Ukiah Community Center, the Ukiah Valley Medical Center, the Howard Memorial Hospital, public housing authorities, and local realtors.

FINDINGS

1. Methamphetamine is one of the most powerful and pernicious drugs, potentially addictive from the first use.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors):The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

2. After methamphetamine use is stopped, severe withdrawal symptoms occur, including depression, anxiety, fatigue, paranoia, aggression, and an intense craving for the drug. Psychotic symptoms can persist for months or years after use has ceased.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Board is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Interim CEO is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

3. Methamphetamine use can result in hyperactivity, disturbed sleep patterns, irritability, paranoia, aggressive behavior, shortness of breath, involuntary muscle movements, malnutrition, and severe depression with suicidal tendencies. Chronic users may develop sores on their bodies from scratching at “crank bugs,” the term that describes the common delusion that bugs are crawling under the skin. Long-term use may lead to fatal kidney and lung disease, brain damage, liver damage, stroke, lowered resistance to illnesses, tooth decay, and permanent psychological problems such as drug-induced psychosis.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Board is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO

agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Interim CEO is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the Division and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

4. Methamphetamine use during pregnancy results in a higher risk of premature births, babies with low birth weight, cardiac blockages and other birth defects. The use of methamphetamine during pregnancy impacts the fetus by reducing blood flow or by a direct toxic effect on the developing brain.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Board is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Interim CEO is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. Currently, there is no law that specifically protects a fetus from a parent who causes or is causing harm to the fetus by the use of any illegal drug, including methamphetamine. Penal Code section 273a, endangering the health of a child, applies only to birthed children.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees

with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The ADOP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the Division and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

5. Children who are exposed to methamphetamine via second-hand smoke can have detectable levels of methamphetamine in their urine.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Board is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Interim CEO is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. In addition, detectable levels of methamphetamine can be found in a child's blood and hair samples.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Division and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

6. Children who are legally removed from a methamphetamine environment cannot take with them their clothing and toys due to contamination.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. In a disturbing trend, children's toys, clothing, and car seats are often used as a hiding place for methamphetamine from law enforcement.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the Division and its staff are not trained or certified in social work to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

7. Children of methamphetamine-using parents are raised in a highly traumatic environment and often subjected to physical and emotional neglect.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the Division and its staff are not trained or certified in social work to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

8. Many Child Protective Service and domestic violence cases in Mendocino County

are directly related to the use of methamphetamine by a parent or family member.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the Division and its staff are not trained or certified in social work to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

9. Substance abuse programs in Mendocino County are provided by:

- a. Mendocino County Alcohol and Other Drug Program (AODP)
- b. the Ford Street Project
- c. Narcotics Anonymous (NA)
- d. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. However, a number of private treatment facilities are in place locally that are funded by private insurance and some federal and state money.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department

Response): The Department and its Divisions agree with this finding.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

10. The number of patients needing medical services rises significantly in Mendocino County emergency rooms when there is a rise in the purity of the methamphetamine available on the streets.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Board is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Interim CEO is not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney partially agrees with the finding. The “purity” of methamphetamine, in our opinion, is not the main factor in any increase in the number of patients needing medical services. Unlike cocaine or heroin, which are extracted from plants, there is no such thing as “pure” methamphetamine, which can and is made from a number of different combinations of chemicals and processes. The greatest health risks come from (1) the potency of the drug, (2) the probability of “impure” or contaminated methamphetamine, and (3) the method of ingestion. Smoking or injecting the drug creates a faster, stronger effect.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department does not collect this information and does not know if this statement is correct.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The AODP Division agrees with this finding, with the comment that while the AODP Division and its staff are not medically trained or certified to make this determination our treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): Without further information, I can neither agree nor disagree with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

11. Efforts to secure funding for programs to combat methamphetamine use require considerable staff time, though the yield is generally a short-term grant for a long-term need.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors

agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department cannot comment on this topic.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The AODP Division agrees with this finding. AODP applies for and has received many grants for AOD prevention, intervention, and treatment and this is the Division's experience.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): Without further information, I can neither agree nor disagree with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

12. Gangs are involved with methamphetamine manufacture and sales in Mendocino County; gang violence can also be attributed to methamphetamine.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not maintaining statistics and information sufficient to make this determination.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The Public Health Department, Health Officer, and Divisions agrees with this finding, with the comment the Division and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.
Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

13. Biker gangs are becoming more active in the distribution of methamphetamine.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. Biker gangs, especially the Hell's Angels, have been involved in the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine since the drug first appeared on the drug scene. The Hell's Angels had been a dominant force in Mendocino County, but a number of recent prosecutions have resulted in long prison sentences for Hell's Angels members and their affiliates. New biker gangs have appeared on scene, but the extent of their involvement in methamphetamine manufacturing and distribution is not known at this time. Hispanic gangs have recently become more involved in the local manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The Department, Health Officer, and Divisions agrees with this finding, with the comment the Division and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): I agree that biker gangs are active in distribution of methamphetamine, however this is not a new activity for them.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

14. Many individuals and departments funded by Mendocino County taxpayers are involved in the arrest, prosecution and incarceration of methamphetamine users. These include city police, the Sheriff's Department, the Major Crimes Task Force, judges, court staff, probation officers, District Attorney staff, and Public Defender staff.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The Department, Health Officer, and Divisions agree with this finding. There is an additional County cost- Environmental Health is a County taxpayer funded division and it is involved in the cleanup of methamphetamine labs. The EH Division seldom receive any reimbursement funds from the responsible parties (because they are either in jail or gone).

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

15. Law enforcement personnel express frustration over the lack of meaningful consequences for those enrolled in the Proposition 36 program, which attempts to provide an alternative to confinement for drug abusers.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. While meaningful consequences [incarceration] may be lacking under Penal Code section 1201.1 probation, meaningful treatment is made available to the probationer. If treatment is rejected or the probationer is ultimately found to be unamenable to treatment, incarceration is available and likely to be imposed.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department

Response): The Department, Health Officer and Divisions, agrees with this finding. Prop 36 regulations do not provide incarceration as a sanction for not completing treatment. However, AODP supports regulation reform.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): I agree with this finding as there are not enough consequences built in for repeat offenders.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

16. Many of the items required to produce methamphetamine are readily available at local grocery and hardware stores. Because many of the chemicals used to make methamphetamine are explosive, caustic and carcinogenic, they pose serious health hazards if mixed together or stored improperly.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. The District Attorney has vigorously and successfully prosecuted cases of manufacturing and possession with intent to manufacture. The courts have imposed stiff prison sentences in those cases.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The Department, Health Officer and Divisions agrees in part with this finding. Laws, which have been recently passed to monitor the purchase of decongestants containing ephedrine, have made it more difficult to purchase this vital ingredient. The chemicals used to make methamphetamine are also poisonous, reactive and acidic.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

17. With a cash outlay of less than one hundred dollars, a batch of methamphetamine can be manufactured (cooked) and sold on the streets for several thousand dollars.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisor agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The Department, Health Officer, and Divisions agrees with this finding, with the comment the Division and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

18. For every pound of methamphetamine manufactured there are six pounds of toxic waste materials that must be disposed of.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding. The toxic wastes created from the manufacture of methamphetamine are almost always dumped, often times polluting underground and above ground water sources, creating an enormous health risk.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding, with the comment that the Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department and its staff are not directly involved with this aspect of law enforcement and has no direct data on this question.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department Response): The Department, Health Officer, and Divisions agrees with this finding, with

the comment the Division and its staff has no direct data on this question. Environmental Health usually says that 95% of the chemicals used in the manufacture of methamphetamine end up as hazardous waste.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

19. Professionals who work to combat drug abuse in the County agree that the problem is intensified because there is in the County both a high level of tolerance for general drug use and a lack of awareness of the dangers of methamphetamine.

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The Interim CEO agrees with this finding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the finding.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this finding.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): The Department, Health Officer, and Divisions agrees with this finding, particularly AODP's treatment staff, which is trained and certified for AOD treatment, specifically in AOD risks and effects, would agree. However, awareness of the dangers of methamphetamine has increased over the past several years, due in part to the high profile of methamphetamine involved crimes and prosecutions, and currently methamphetamine use is not as tolerated as alcohol and other drugs.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Grand Jury recommends that:

1. The Board of Supervisors and City Councils from the four incorporated cities cooperate in taking the lead in the war on methamphetamine in Mendocino County. (Findings 6, 8-16)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Board will direct the County's Executive Office to work with the various cities within the next 6 months.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has not yet been implemented, as this recommendation falls under the

authority of the Board of Supervisors and the various Cities.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation, but has no ability to implement the recommendation.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Not implemented by AODP/PH, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation is directed to the Board of Supervisors and City Councils from the four incorporated cities.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

2. The Board of Supervisors and City Councils from the four incorporated cities increase controls on the sale of ingredients used in the manufacture of methamphetamine. (Finding 5)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has been implemented in part. The Board took action in 2005 by adopting an ordinance, which limits access to pseudoephedrine.

Response (Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented in part. The Board took action in 2005 by adopting an ordinance, which limits access to pseudoephedrine.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation, but has no ability to implement the recommendation.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Not implemented by AODP/PH, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation is directed to the Board of Supervisors and City Councils from the four incorporated cities, however I wish to add that state legislators should be involved.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

3. the Board of Supervisors and City Councils establish a process to rigorously evaluate both the costs to and the impact on the County and the incorporated cities of the methamphetamine epidemic. (Findings 6, 8-16)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Board has requested, through the CEO's office, a full report on the statistics from the AODP Division.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has not yet been implemented, however will be implemented in the future. The CEO has requested from the AODP Division a complete analysis of the current statistics of the methamphetamine epidemic.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation, but has no ability to implement the recommendation.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Not implemented by AODP/PH, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation is directed to the Board of Supervisors and City Councils from the four incorporated cities.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

4. the Board of Supervisors and City Councils continue to aggressively pursue grant funding to address the methamphetamine problem in Mendocino County. (Findings 11-16)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has been implemented in part in that the Board encourages the Public Health Department to continue to apply for grant funding.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented in part in that the CEO encourages the Public Health Department to continue to apply for grant funding.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation, but has no ability to implement the recommendation.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Not implemented by AODP/PH, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation is directed to the Board of Supervisors and City Councils.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

5. the Board of Supervisor and City Councils allocate money from their general funds to address the methamphetamine problem. (Finding 11,14, 19)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has been implemented in part in that the Board allocates general funds to the AODP/PH department to be utilized according to current needs. If general funds become available in the future the Board will consider allocation accordingly.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented in part in that the Board has allocated general funds to the AODP/PH department to be utilized according to current needs. If general funds become available in the future the Board has the opportunity to consider allocation accordingly.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation, but has no ability to implement the recommendation.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Not implemented by AODP/PH, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of

Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County. However, while AODP/PH does receive some county general funds none of it is specific to address the methamphetamine problem. We do agree that AODP needs more resources for prevention, intervention, and treatment of Methamphetamine use/abuse in the County.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation is directed to the Board of Supervisors and City Councils. However, I agree financial cooperation to their law enforcement agencies is necessary to combat this problem. I have requested the funding to keep our staffing levels up so the deputies in the field can combat methamphetamine.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

6. the District Attorney examine the consequences of current sentencing practices for drug-related crimes. (Finding 15)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has been implemented. See the response provided by the District Attorney.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented. See the response provided by the District Attorney.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented. The consequences for all crimes are controlled by statute. Sentencing practices vary by individual judges, but all fall within the statutory sentencing ranges for the offense.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the District Attorney.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the District Attorney.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Not implemented by AODP/PH, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the District Attorney.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation is directed to the District Attorney.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

7. the Board of Supervisors and City Councils require departments and agencies to freely share information and statistics regarding methamphetamine in order to coordinate programs and maximize resources. (Findings 11-16)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has been implemented in part in that the Public Health Department produces a Community Health Status Report every two years. The Board does support further implementation of this recommendation as it pertains to all County departments.

Response (Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has

been implemented in part in that the Public Health Department produces a Community Health Status Report every two years. The CEO supports further implementation of this recommendation as it pertains to all County departments.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation and has the ability to implement the recommendation. The District Attorney is available and eager to share any and all “information and statistics regarding methamphetamine” with anyone at any time.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Implemented as the Public Health Department produces a Community Health Status Report every two years. This report is widely distributed and includes Board of Supervisors and City Councils.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation has been implemented by way of the Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force, of which the following agencies participate: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office; Mendocino County District Attorney's Office; Mendocino County Probation Department; Ukiah Police Department; Fort Bragg Police Department; Willits Police Department; California Highway Patrol, California State Parks; and California State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

8. education of the public be the primary weapon to counter the methamphetamine epidemic. The Grand Jury strongly urges that both the County and local communities use all their resources (including school programs, town hall meetings, and media) to further educate and engage the residents of Mendocino County in efforts to combat methamphetamine. (Findings 1, 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 17, 18)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has been implemented. Please see the response provided by the Public Health Department.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented. Please see the response provided by the Public Health Department.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation, but has no ability to implement the recommendation. The District Attorney's Office, on its own has conducted a number of training and education programs over the years directed at educating the public, especially school-aged

children, of the health dangers and other risks caused by the use of methamphetamine. **Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County):** Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation falls under the authority of the County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of the various Cities in the County.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Implemented. Providing substance abuse education and treatment to the public, in particular around methamphetamine, and its increasing relationship to HIV, is an on-going commitment and responsibility of AODP. An important part of this issue is enlisting the larger community in educational awareness. While methamphetamine has been identified as a primary drug of choice in many populations and of a major concern to the community's well-being, AODP's Adolescent staff currently provides treatment groups and educational presentations on the effects, risks, and pervasiveness of methamphetamine. Educational presentations are provided to youth in school classrooms as part of prevention education and as part of the treatment curriculum in prevention, intervention, and treatment groups. Adolescent staff provides drug education specifically to parents at back to school nights as well as within other parent education programs as part of the treatment curriculum. Staff has also presented a substance abuse education workshop in April 2006 at the Whole Child Conference in Ukiah.

Education presentations are also typically provided to other agencies, community organizations, faith based groups, community health fairs, and school activities to reach the adult community population. AODP has worked with both the Anderson Valley Community Coalition and the Potter Valley community to address those communities' concerns about drugs, specifically methamphetamine, in their community.

Community education and outreach is part of the three-year federal (SAHMSA), targeted capacity expansion grant, Methamphetamine Treatment for Mendocino (MTM), that AODP received to focus on methamphetamine treatment and education county-wide. Presentation topics include: Increase of stimulant use in Mendocino County/Nationwide; Neuro-biological effects of stimulant use; Development of effective treatment modalities; Expansion of treatment services; Question and Answer/Community feedback. Presentations topics include: Increase of stimulant use in Mendocino County/Nationwide; Neuro-biological effects of stimulant use; Development of effective treatment modalities; Expansion of treatment services; Question and Answer/Community feedback. Presentations to date have included the Mendocino Coast Community Clinic, Leadership Mendocino, Adult Protective Services' Coast Multi-Disciplinary Team, and Family Connections collaborative.

Environmental Health has developed a power point presentation, "Dangers of Meth

Lab Chemicals". We give this presentation to civic groups, Social workers, home health workers, government employees, fire departments, employers, law enforcement agencies, public utilities, and students at local high schools. The presentation has been VERY well received and we have frequent requests for the presentation. We are currently doing about two presentations a month.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation has been implemented as my office currently sends deputies and deputies assigned to Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force to handle school presentations and other educational events.

My office is also involved in the WOLF Project in Covelo, and the Anderson Valley Community Action Coalition in Boonville. These grass roots organizations have been developed to engage and educate the residence of Mendocino County in efforts to combat methamphetamine use.

It is my hope that these organizations grow countywide, as it takes the entire community to deal with this huge problem.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

9. community members assist law enforcement in uncovering methamphetamine labs by reporting suspicious odors, trash, and unusual traffic flow in their neighborhoods, through neighborhood watch programs, homeowners associations, and other local action groups. (Findings 6, 18)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has not yet been implemented as the Board does not have authority over community members.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has not yet been implemented as the Interim CEO does not have authority over community members.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The District Attorney agrees with the recommendation, but has no ability to implement the recommendation.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation is directed at community members.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Not implemented, as this recommendation is directed at community members.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Not implemented by AODP/PH, as this recommendation is directed at community members.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation has been implemented as individuals can report these problems to our Communications Center and remain anonymous. Deputies assist neighborhoods and homeowners associations in setting up Neighborhood Watch Programs in their areas.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

10. all government agencies and non-governmental organizations encourage and cooperate with citizens' methamphetamine suppression efforts. (Findings 1, 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 17, 18)

Response (Mendocino County Board of Supervisors): The recommendation has been implemented. Please see the response provided by the Public Health Department.

Response (Interim Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented. Please see the response provided by the Public Health Department.

Response (District Attorney, Mendocino County): The recommendation has been implemented by the District Attorney and has been our common practice for a number of years.

Response (Department of Social Services, Mendocino County): Implemented.

Response (Mental Health Department, Mendocino County): Implement to the fullest extent possible.

Response (Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County): The Department agrees with this recommendation, but has no ability to implement.

Response (Public Health Department, Health Officer, Environmental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Program, a Division of the Public Health Department): Implemented. AODP/PH has worked with many community suppression efforts, including the Anderson Valley Community Coalition and the Potter Valley community to address those communities' concerns about drugs, specifically methamphetamine, in their community.

Response (Sheriff, Mendocino County): This recommendation has been implemented as members of the Sheriff's Office have been actively involved in citizens' methamphetamine suppression groups in both Anderson Valley and Round Valley. I would like to encourage other communities to start their own drug suppression groups.

Response (Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force):

COMMENTS

As long as there is widespread tolerance among the general public for dangerous drug use, the efforts of law enforcement and drug prevention agencies will be ineffective. The complexities involved in establishing an effective medical marijuana policy further muddy these waters. The leaders in this County, both public and private, need to communicate clearly the realities of dangerous drug use.

The public needs also to recognize that the costs of methamphetamine use extend far beyond the immediate consequences to the individual user. That user may be a burden to the community for the rest of his or her life. The family, particularly the children, of that user is at risk for physical, financial and emotional damage for years to come.

REQUIRED RESPONSES

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (all findings and all recommendations)
Chief Executive Officer, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
City Council of Fort Bragg (all findings and all recommendations)
City Council of Point Arena (all findings and all recommendations)
City Council of Ukiah (all findings and all recommendations)
City Council of Willits (all findings and all recommendations)
District Attorney, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Department of Human Services, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Department of Social Services, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Public Health Officer, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Public Health Department, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Mental Health Department, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Chief Probation Officer, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
AODP, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Sheriff, Mendocino County (all findings and all recommendations)
Willits Police Department (all findings and all recommendations)
Ukiah Police Department (all findings and all recommendations)
Fort Bragg Police Department (all findings and all recommendations)
Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force (all findings and all recommendations)
Superintendent, Mendocino County Office of Education (all findings and all recommendations)

RESPONSE REQUESTED

Presiding Judge, Mendocino County Superior Court
Project Sanctuary
The Ford Street Project
Ukiah Community Center
Ukiah Valley Medical Center
Frank Howard Memorial Hospital

Sources:

Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement and Victim Services Division
Mendocino County Mental Health Department report; "Health Problems Caused by Methamphetamine Use" (Beth Martinez, Director)
Mendocino County Therapeutic Courts report
2004/2005 Nevada County Grand Jury Report "What You Don't Know *Can* Hurt You, Methamphetamine In Nevada County"
2001/2002 Mendocino County Grand Jury Report "Marijuana and Methamphetamine Suppression Efforts in Mendocino County"
MSNBC TV Program - "Wasteland"
National Geographic TV Program - "MS13"
2005/2006 Mendocino County Final Budget