

**Meth Addiction Puts Parenting Burdens on Grandparents**

Children of parents debilitated by methamphetamine addiction often end up living with their grandparents, who must put off retirement just when they thought their child-raising years were over. Tennessee residents Delta Cottrell, 56, and her husband, Paul, 57, are caring for their 7- and 11-year-old grandchildren because Delta's addicted stepdaughter lost custody of the kids. "When this happens, your whole life is imposed upon, but it is by choice because there is no other way," said Paul. "I would not take anything for my children, but our new lifestyle means there is no time for me, and more of my hard-earned money is going toward things I had not planned for." Often, "grandfamilies" are seen as the only alternative to foster care and child-welfare systems that are staggering under the impact of meth addiction and other problems. The 2000 census showed the 4.5 million U.S. children lived with their grandparents, up 30 percent from 1990, and another 1.5 million live with other relatives. In states like Montana, Iowa, and Oregon, the majority of foster-care placements are due to meth. "Because of meth and other problems, grandparents have become lifelines for so many hurt children," said Donna Butts, executive director of Generations United, an advocacy group for grandparents. The trend has prompted advocates to ask Congress to provide more support to grandparents who are raising their grandchildren, as well as asking states to give grandparents the same rights as foster parents and ease licensing laws. Grandparents also have to deal with the health problems often suffered by children from homes used as meth labs. Illinois has established a "subsidized guardianship" program that gives grandparents financial assistance as well as the same rights as foster parents in raising their grandchildren.

**Target Joins Kohl's in Halting Sales of Drinking Games**

Bowing to a grassroots advocacy campaign, retailer Target has joined Kohl's in halting sales of controversial drinking games that critics say promote binge drinking. A letter-writing campaign by drug-prevention advocates resulted in Target announcing this week that it is no longer selling games like Drinko in its stores or on its website. Kohls made a similar decision prior to Christmas. The advocacy campaign was coordinated by Join Together, Center for Science in the Public Interest, and Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. Target received more than 2,000 protest letters from advocates, while Kohls received more than 2,800. The campaign continues against retailer Linens-n-Things, which still sells games like Shots and Ladders and Keg Pong. Company officials did not return calls from USA Today reporters looking for comments this week. "Teen drinking is a huge problem in our country today," said Judy Mezey of Student Assistance Services, a Tarrytown, N.Y., group that participated in the letter-writing campaigns. "Here we are trying to create an environment that supports young people and helps them make the right decisions. Products like these undermine the efforts of parents and communities."

**Recovery Community Services Program**

The federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) will award \$2.9 million in grants to enhance delivery of peer-to-peer recovery support services under its Recovery Community Services Program (RCSP). Eight grants of up to \$350,000 each are expected to be awarded to public and private nonprofit organizations and agencies. The money can be used to support efforts to prevent addiction relapse and promote sustained recovery. "Successful applicants will provide peer-to-peer recovery support services that are responsive to community needs and strengths, and will carry out a performance assessment of these services," CSAT noted. Application deadline is Feb. 28, 2007. For more information, contact Kimberly Pendleton at 240-276-1421 or see the grant announcement online at <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=12007>

*Comments/questions? Call The Community Partnership at 419-866-3611 or visit [www.communityprevention.org](http://www.communityprevention.org) for direct links to these and other articles courtesy of Join Together Online at [www.jointogether.org](http://www.jointogether.org)*

**DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES**

**Taking on Goliath: Youth vs. Advertising**

Participants will hear about the process for constructing campaign messages and designing campaign announcements.

**Thursday, January 18, 2007 3:00—4:15 p.m. The Community Partnership Training Center**

**Understanding Addiction**

This training will discuss how to get people in communities to care about addiction and the destruction it might cause. Hear from experts about a genetic link that might make it easier for addiction to grip some people.

**Thursday, January 25, 2007 1:00—2:15 p.m. The Community Partnership Training Center**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

*Please fax or mail*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 18**     **Taking on Goliath: Youth vs. Advertising**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jan. 25**     **Understanding Addiction**

\*The marked titles are distance learning courses, there is no charge.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail, fax or e-mail to:

The Community Partnership

5902 Southwyck Blvd., Suite 100, Toledo, Ohio 43614

fax: 419.866.3613 • e-mail: [jamieb@communityprevention.org](mailto:jamieb@communityprevention.org)

**No Phone Registrations *please!*** For more information or links to other resources, check our web site at [www.communityprevention.org](http://www.communityprevention.org)

# DANGERS OF METHAMPHETAMINE

The Community Partnership will conduct a methamphetamine training for county employees on the dangers of methamphetamine and its prevalence in Lucas County. The focus of this training is to help the attendees identify methamphetamine use, the precursors that are used to manufacture it, clandestine labs, and the effects of methamphetamine on children. Valuable resource materials will be available through funding from The Community Partnership's mini-grant to Lucas County. The materials will include: "Street Drugs, a drug identification guide," "Meth Labs, a Emergency Responder Resource Guide," and Children At Risk, Meth Labs in Our Communities."

Topic: Dangers of Methamphetamine and the Prevalence in Lucas County  
Presenter: Robert Kasprzak  
Date: *Tuesday, January 23, 2007*  
Time: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.  
Where: The Community Partnership Training Center  
5902 Southwyck Blvd.  
Toledo, Ohio 43614  
Cost: Free

RCH's will be available.  
Social Worker and Counselor CEU's are pending  
Teachers must receive prior approval from their LPDC

Pre-registration is required. The deadline is Friday, January 19, 2007

To register, please complete the following form and mail or fax it to:  
The Community Partnership, 5902 Southwyck, Ste. 100, Toledo, Ohio 43614  
Fax: 419.866.3613  
Questions? Please call (419) 866-3611 ext. 107

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

