

BENTON/STEARNS METH COALITION and



Accomplishments:

- Prior to 2006 and currently: Ongoing monthly steering committee meetings. Persons who generally attend represent Stearns and Benton County Public Health, County Commissioners, Benton and Stearns County Sheriff Departments, CentraCare Foundation, Central MN Re-entry Project, Recovery Plus, and local schools
- January 2006: 1,472 invitations were mailed regarding two Meth Free Community meetings (strategic planning community meetings)
- January 2006: Personal invitations to the Meth Free Community meetings mailed out to law enforcement and other officials from a Steering Committee member in law enforcement
- January 2006: Video clip created with two local youth advertising for the Meth Free Community meetings. Video clip was shown on St Cloud Channel 19. The clip was also forwarded to Mel-TV 3 in Melrose, KSAX in Alexandria, and the Paynesville Cable Access. There was also a 4 minute DVD created that was also mailed to each of these stations
- 1/25/2006: Live interview with Cliff Mitchell of Radio KASM in Albany regarding the Meth Free Community meetings
- 1/24/2006 and 1/30/2006: 2 strategic planning community meetings held. 1 meeting in Sauk Rapids with 175 community members present and 1 meeting in Melrose with 100 community members present
- February 2006: 1,081 postcards were sent out to local businesses regarding how they can become involved in the Benton/Stearns Meth Coalition;
- 3/27/2006: 30 minute presentation to the Public TV access channel in St Cloud
- Website started at <http://www.methcoalition.org/HTML/Default.htm>
- April 2006: Steering Committee attended a training with the Initiative Foundation on how to develop an Action Plan;
- April 2006: Stearns County Sheriff's tip line, CAP (Community Against Pushers), is listed on the index page of the website;
- 5/10/2006: 30 minutes on-air interview with Bob Hughes with WJON radio in St Cloud
- June 2006: Addiction Resource Guide developed
- June 2006: Banner created for fair booths
- July 2006 and currently: On-going monthly CHIP Education/Prevention Task Force meetings: second Thursday of the month, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Stearns County Administration Building, Room 499
- July 2006: Booth at the Rockville Rockfest (distributed educational materials, plastic wristbands, and brochures)
- July & August 2006: Booth at both the Stearns and Benton County Fairs (distributed educational materials, plastic wristbands, brochures, and bracelets)

- August 2006: Booth at the St Cloud East Side Health Fair (distributed educational materials, plastic wristbands, and brochures)
- August 2006: Logo was developed for the Benton/Stearns Meth Coalition: CHIP – Citizens Helping Inform the Public about meth and other drugs
- August 2006: Started a Speakers Bureau.
- August 2006: Distributed information at the Bernick's Pepsi Employee Health Fair (200 in attendance)
- August 2006: Three speakers spoke at the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce banquet regarding recovering from methamphetamine use
- September 2006: Early Childhood Project in Melrose. Also using funds from the Early Childhood Coalition and the Melrose Credit Union. Targeting the Latino and long term resident populations. Starting in September 2006, speakers come in one time per month to talk about healthy lifestyles. Communication and refusal skills are discussed
- 10/3/06: Community meeting as a follow up, recruitment meeting to the initial meetings held in January, 52 community members attended
- 10/16/06: Community Education meeting in Foley, 12 persons attended
- 10/18/06: Co-Coordinator (Cynthia & Susie) attended the Medical Minds & Meth conference
- 10/24 & 10/25/06: Meth education booth set up at St. Cloud State for Red Ribbon Week, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- October 2006: Pastor AI from Benton County distributed the CHIP Resource Guides to the Ministerial Association
- 11/7/06: Anita & Susie each gave meth presentation to Melrose High class
- 11/30/06: National Methamphetamine Awareness Day: sent pressers to media sources, contacted the St. Cloud Times, St. Cloud State University's (SCSU) UTVS station interviewed Susie and two counselors from Recovery Plus, news brief in the SCSU Chronicle newspaper, message posted on electronic signs at Coborn's in Sauk Rapids, Falcon Bank in Foley, MidTown Square in St. Cloud
- 11/18 & 11/25/06: "Morning Eye Opener" on Newstalk 1450 KNSI special 2-part on meth. Susie, Jean, Paula, and Dave spoke with host Michael John Smith
- December 2006: Paula Weathers spoke at St. Cloud Tech to high risk students
- 12/14/06: Climb Theater at Foley High School
- 1/5, 1/17, 1/23, 1/16, 2/5, 2/6, 2/7, 2/15, 2/16/07: Climb Theater in St. Cloud schools
- 1/22/07: Meth Community Education Night in Holdingford (excellent event & turn out)
- On-going development of Website: www.methcoalition.org
- January 2007: New CHIP logo is completed, a portion of which was designed by a man who was in the Stearns County jail and he was compensated for his design
- January 2007: Community Speaker guidelines and application finalized
- 2/1 & 2/2/07: Larry invited to do 2 presentations in the Learning Schools in Sartell, 9:30 a.m.
- 2/9/07: Stearns County Human Services, on behalf of the Benton/Stearns Meth Coalition, awarded \$4,425 from the Emerging Leaders Fund from the Central Minnesota Community Foundation to allow 5 additional schools to see the CLIMB production, *Shattered*, at a reduced price

- February 2007: Effective Living Center spoke to the catholic church in Gilman about meth and other addictions, 150 persons heard the presentation
- 2/1-10/31/07: CHIP Ad Panels posted in various restaurants, bars, and movie theaters in St. Cloud, it is estimated that 10,000 people will see the panels
- January & February 2007: Promote publicity for Mark Lundholm performance (Comedy of Substance) at CSB 2/17 & 2/18
- 2/17 & 2/18: CHIP Display table at Mark Lundholm event, with CHIP Task Force members available to answer questions, approximately 3000 people attended
- February 2007: Orange glow in the dark wrist bands received: "Drugs Destroy, Hope Heals www.methcoalition.org"
- March 2007: Benton County Human Services, on behalf of the Benton/Stearns Meth Coalition, awarded \$3,015 for the billboard campaign, Drugs Destroy, Hope Heals www.methcoalition.org Billboard displayed through January 2008.
- 3/20/07: CHIP table at SCSU event with "Full House" actress Jodie Sweetin who lived a "double life, i.e. meth user"
- 4/17/2007: "A Child Affected" presented by Benton County Health Educator and Sheriff Deputy to Benton County daycare and foster care providers, 20 people attended
- 4/30/2007: Paula Weathers spoke with 10th graders at Apollo High School
- May 2007: Started 6 month rotating billboard campaign with one billboard in each of the two counties
- May 2007: Newsletter article on the billboard campaign was in the CentraCare Diabetes Center and Endocrinology Clinic Newsletters. These are distributed among the CentraCare clinics and their employees.
- 5/11/2007: Paula W. and Jackie H. spoke with half of the 7th graders at North Junior High
- 5/18/2007: Paula and Janet (from Recovery Plus) presented to lab specialists at a conference at the St Cloud Civic Center regarding methamphetamines
- 5/21/2007: Paula spoke to three groups of 50 – 9th graders in Sauk Rapids
- June 2007: Mike E, CHIP member, won \$500 from the Initiative Foundation at the Meth Reunion and it will be spent on a Community Event for Red Ribbon Week in October
- 6/27/2007: Stearns County Sheriff Sanner presented at Freeport City Hall. There was an article about the presentation on the front page of the Sauk Centre Herald on 7/3/2007
- July & August 2007: Booth at both the Stearns and Benton County Fairs (distributed educational materials, plastic wristbands, and brochures)
- Two members of the CHIP Task Force spoke on WJON talk radio with Bob Hughes on 7/30/07 regarding their path to searching out recovery from their addiction.
- 8/2/2007: Susie Osaki Holm presented to the CentraCare Foundation Community Collaborative Committee regarding the Benton/Stearns Meth Coalition
- Stearns County Human Services received \$4,425 through the Central Minnesota Community Foundation Emerging Leaders Fund to assist in providing CLIMB Theater productions in an additional six schools: Belgrad-Brooten-Elrose High School 10/2/07, Kimball High School 10/5/07, Melrose Middle School 11/30/07, and Rocori Middle School 1/24/08. The St Cloud Children's Home and the District 742 Area Learning Center both received ½ day productions on 10/11/07.

- Speaking engagements have taken place at Reach Up Head Start (Aug) and Child Care Choices Conference (Sept).
- 10/31/2007: Presentation to Partners in Hope on regarding the work of the Meth Coalition (12 people).
- 9/8/2007: The CHIP Task Force had a display table with resources at the Boy Scout Health and Resource Fair.
- 11/28/2007: One member of the CHIP Task Force, Anthony M, spoke on WJON AM1240 talk radio with Bob Hughes. The topics included National Methamphetamine Awareness Day and the book he has written about his addiction, "Reflections of a Miracle."
- 12/5/2007: The CHIP Task Force had a display table with resources at the SCSU Winter Health Fair (250 people)
- 01/05/08: Three CHIP members participated in an interview radio show on The Morning Eye Opener KNSI 1450
- 02/19/08: St. Cloud, ISD 742 Parent's Night. CHIP had a display and volunteers present to talk with interested people. Approximately 100 attended, including law enforcement, individuals associated with St. Cloud Hospital, the school, and the community.
- 02/25/08: CHIP taskforce member Anthony M spoke at a community meeting in Albany that was sponsored by the Police Department. Also speaking was Police Chief James A. Stueve. 55 members of the community attended.
- 03/10/08: Started a six month contract with Regent Broadcasting for a 60-second web stream ad and a web banner. The streaming ad was recorded in studio by four CHIP volunteers' telling their stories. The ad can be heard on all six Regent Broadcast web streams of their radio stations and the banner is displayed along with it.
- 04/23/08: The CHIP Task Force had a display table with resources at the SCSU Spring Health Fair (250 people).
- 05/01/08: Dave W. presents to Julie Knutson's *Mood Modifying Substances in Today's Society* Class at St. Cloud State University to 30 students.
- 05/14/08: Cynthia Heltunen represents CHIP at the DARE graduation at St. John's School in Foley.
- 08/04/08: Re-designed website goes live!!
- 08/06-10/08: CHIP has a booth at the Benton County Fair (seen by thousands).
- 10/1-2/08: Coordinators attend Program Sharing Conference in St. Cloud.
- 10/16/08: CHIP co-sponsors BLIZZARDSHACK with SCSU. BlizzardShack was a chemical free alternative activity during SCSU's homecoming week. They set up a miniature golf course. CHIP was one of the main sponsors, and the coalition staffed the 18th hole. Approximately 300 students attended the event.
- 10/20/08: CHIP co-sponsors St. Cloud School District's Parent Information Night. 22 people were in attendance.
- 11/06/08: CHIP sponsors the Backstrom Family in Kimball. Event held at the Kimball HS Gymnasium draws 40 community members. The Backstrom Family lost three of their five boys to a drunk driver four years ago.
- 12/04/08: SCSU Student Health Fair. CHIP gave out highlighters, and they were a big hit! About 25 students came to talk to us about our coalition.
- 12/08: Billboards will go back up in Benton and Stearns County.