

National Summit to Tackle Issues Related to Nation's Prescription Drug Abuse Problem

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Communities across the United States continue to be ravaged by the abuse of prescription drugs.

In an effort to bring all parties together to find data-driven solutions to this problem, Operation UNITE is coordinating the first National Summit on Rx Drug Abuse — the first national summit focusing only on the issue of prescription drug abuse, April 10 to 12, 2012, at the Walt Disney World Swan Resort in Orlando, Fla.

The summit will provide attendees an opportunity to interact with and learn from their colleagues — and experts in other disciplines — who are successfully battling prescription drug abuse in communities across the nation, UNITE Director Karen Kelly said.

Keynote speakers at the Summit are expected to include Congressman Harold “Hal” Rogers (KY-5th), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; R. Gil Kerlikowske, director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin; Dr. Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA); Dennis Jay, director of the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud; and Joe Rannazzisi, deputy assistant administrator with the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Conference programming is designed to convey a synergistic approach to include: prevention, education, treatment, law enforcement, health care providers, advocates and human resources among other impacted parties. The program will include breakout sessions impacting law enforcement, treatment, health care, advocacy and prevention. ■

For more information about the Summit please visit www.NationalRxDrugAbuseSummit.org.



>> Law enforcement across the commonwealth are seeking effective legislation aimed at restricting the sale of pseudoephedrine – the key ingredient used in the manufacturing of methamphetamine. Kentucky is exceeding lab numbers from previous years (up 35 percent from 2010), and it is becoming even more apparent that it is time for action.

Months of planning, traveling, researching and revising have gone into a program that we believe will change the history of the commonwealth. This campaign has been designed with a train-the-trainer concept in mind.

“With the number of meth lab incidents rapidly rising in the state, we must educate our citizens on the dangers associated with methamphetamine and how they can be part of an active solution to the problem,” said Vic Brown, deputy director of AHIDTA.

Each individual who participates in the One Step Misery campaign will be equipped with a training kit, allowing

them to have all necessary information available to go forward and train other law enforcement officials on the dangers of methamphetamine.

Each One Step Misery Kit will include:

- 1 Packaged Community Presentation
- 150 Brochures
- 15 Posters
- A Media Campaign with Radio/Print PSAs
- Facilitator Guide
- 100 Legislative Message Cards

Become educated about the dangers of meth, learn about its harmful effects and know what to look for. Become an active part of the solution.

Law enforcement across the state have come together to educate communities. If you are interested in scheduling a presentation or distributing materials throughout your community, please contact Operation UNITE by calling 1-866-OP-UNITE or by email at onestepmisery@centertech.com. 🍌

▼ Methamphetamine is a scourge on society. To an average citizen, this pile of bags and bottles may look like a trash heap. But to drug investigators, it is a sign of danger and criminal meth production.



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