

# Training **MATTERS**



A PUBLICATION OF THE NC DSS FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES STATEWIDE TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

Volume 6, Number 2 • April 2005

*Training Matters* is produced by the North Carolina Division of Social Services Family Support and Child Welfare Services Statewide Training Partnership, an organization dedicated to developing and delivering competency-based, job-relevant, accessible child welfare training. Partners include:

- N.C. Division of Social Services
- N.C. Association of County Directors of Social Services
- Appalachian Family Innovations at Appalachian State University
- Independent Living Resources, Inc.
- N.C. State University Department of Social Work
- N.C. A & T State University Social Work Program
- Resources for Change, Inc.
- UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work (Jordan Institute for Families)
- UNC-Chapel Hill School of Medicine
- UNC-Greensboro Department of Social Work

## We Want To Hear from You!

If you have questions or would like to comment about something that appears in *Training Matters*, please contact Teresa Turner, Family Support and Child Welfare Services Staff Development, N.C. Division of Social Services, 2412 Mail Service Center, 325 N. Salisbury Street, Suite 735, Raleigh, NC 27699-2412, State Courier: 56-20-25, E-mail: [Teresa.Turner@ncmail.net](mailto:Teresa.Turner@ncmail.net), Tel: 919/733-7672.

## Visit Our Website

Go to <[www.trainingmatters-nc.org](http://www.trainingmatters-nc.org)>.

This issue of *Training Matters* was produced by John McMahon of the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work.

References for this issue can be found at <[www.trainingmatters-nc.org](http://www.trainingmatters-nc.org)>

## Child Welfare Learning Resources Related to Meth

North Carolina is responding vigorously to the spread of methamphetamine labs and methamphetamine abuse with new laws, new funding, and public outreach strategies. A good example of the latter is the NC State Bureau of Investigation, which in 2004 educated more than 10,000 North Carolinians about the dangers of meth.

### Child Welfare Training

The NC Division of Social Services is also taking steps to ensure county DSS employees have the information they need to keep people safe and to support meth-involved families.

Thanks to special funding from the 2004 legislative session, the Division is contracting with the Jordan Institute for Families at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work to develop several

### Meth Abuse Patterns

- **Low-intensity abusers** usually swallow or snort the drug as an appetite suppressant or to provide extra stimulation for work or play.
- **Binge abusers** smoke or inject meth and experience highly addictive euphoric rushes. During the most dangerous stage of a binge cycle the abuser has not slept in days and is irritable and paranoid.
- **High-intensity abusers** are the addicts often called speed freaks. Their goal is to prevent the crash associated with coming down from a meth high, but they experience declining euphoria due to increased tolerance.

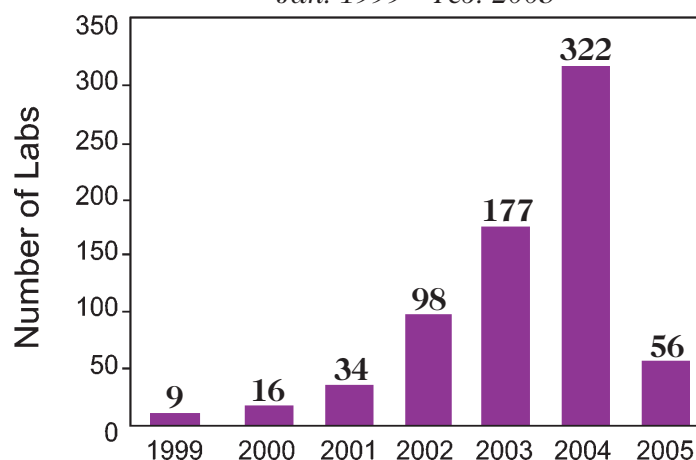
Source: NDIC, 2003

meth-related courses for DSS workers.

The first, *Responding to Families and Communities Impacted by Meth*, will be a one-day event that will provide basic information about meth and meth labs, with an emphasis on Division policy and overall safety. This *continued* →

## Responses to Meth Labs in North Carolina

Jan. 1999 – Feb. 2005



Source: North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation

# Learning Resources Related to Meth from page 1

course will be offered 20 times across North Carolina this spring, with the first training beginning the third week of April. For training dates, locations, and to register, visit <http://www.ncswtrain.org>.

*Responding to Families and Communities Impacted by Meth* will also elicit information from course participants to help guide the development of a more comprehensive, two-day course that will focus on family-centered practice with meth-involved families and their children. This course will first be offered in Asheville on September 27–28

and in Charlotte on December 8–9, 2005. It is anticipated part of this course will be delivered online in the future.

The Division has also asked the Jordan Institute to modify an existing training, *Introduction to Substance Abuse*, to incorporate information about meth.

The current issue of *Children's Services Practice Notes* (vol. 10, no. 2) is another example of the Division's efforts to help workers support families involved with meth. You can find it online at [www.practicenotes.org](http://www.practicenotes.org).

## Child Welfare Policy

The NCDSS's children's services

policy on meth lab interventions, issued January 1, 2005, can be found at <http://info.dhhs.state.nc.us/olm/manuals/dss/csm-65/man>.

If you have questions about the content of the training on meth or about the Division's Drug Endangered Child policy, contact the NCDSS's Laura Elmore, Program Coordinator (t: 919/733-4319; e: [laura.elmore@ncmail.net](mailto:laura.elmore@ncmail.net))

## Additional Resources

The box below contains additional resources for those wishing to learn more about methamphetamine and the impact it has on families, the child welfare system, and society as a whole.

## Resources for Learning More

### General References about Meth

Idaho Drug Endangered Children Conference Medical Summit. Excellent overview. [www.isp.state.id.us/DEC\\_Conference/documents/WellsandWrightpresentation.ppt](http://www.isp.state.id.us/DEC_Conference/documents/WellsandWrightpresentation.ppt)

Children in Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs: Helping Meth's Youngest Victims (OVC Bulletin). [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/bulletins/children](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/bulletins/children)

Children at Risk, National Drug Intelligence Center [www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs1/1466/](http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs1/1466/)

Minnesota Department of Health, Meth Webpage. [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/meth](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/meth)

### North Carolina

NC Methamphetamine Summit: Final report. [www.ncdoj.com](http://www.ncdoj.com)

NC Association of County Directors of Social Services. Addressing the methamphetamine problem, a fact sheet for social service personnel. [www.ncacdss.org](http://www.ncacdss.org)

### Meth Lab Photos

Keys to Recognizing a Clandestine Laboratory. [www.stopdrugs.org/recognizinglabs.html](http://www.stopdrugs.org/recognizinglabs.html)

Chattanooga Police Department. [www.chattanooga.gov/police/MethFAQ.htm](http://www.chattanooga.gov/police/MethFAQ.htm)

### Media Coverage of Meth

Meth in the Mountains. Charlotte Observer, March 2003. [www.miami.com/mld/charlotte/news/photos/8242554.htm?1c](http://www.miami.com/mld/charlotte/news/photos/8242554.htm?1c)

County Agencies Respond to the Meth Threat, The Mountain Times (NC). [www.mountaintimes.com/mtweekly/2003/0619/meth.php3](http://www.mountaintimes.com/mtweekly/2003/0619/meth.php3)

### Child Welfare and Substance Abuse

Out-of-Home Placements Due to Parent Chemical Abuse and the Connection to Methamphetamine Addiction. [ssw.che.umn.edu/CASCW/meth\\_cm\\_summary.html](http://ssw.che.umn.edu/CASCW/meth_cm_summary.html)

Child Welfare Online Training Project: Substance Abuse. [www.ssw.umich.edu/icwtp/substanceAbuse](http://www.ssw.umich.edu/icwtp/substanceAbuse)

Health and Human Services Report "Blending Perspectives and Building Common Ground: A Report to Congress on Substance Abuse and Child Protection," April 1999. [aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/subabuse99/subabuse.htm](http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/subabuse99/subabuse.htm)

National Association of Social Workers (NASW) October, 2003 Practice Note on ASFA and Substance Abuse. [www.naswdc.org/practice/children/cws1003.pdf](http://www.naswdc.org/practice/children/cws1003.pdf)

### Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Programs

Drug Endangered Children [www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/enforce/dr\\_endangered\\_child.html](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/enforce/dr_endangered_child.html)

Riverside, California Drug Endangered Children Program. [dec.co.riverside.ca.us](http://dec.co.riverside.ca.us)

Shasta County, CA. [www.notinourtown.net/decprogram.htm](http://www.notinourtown.net/decprogram.htm)

Colorado Drug Endangered Children Program. [www.colodec.org](http://www.colodec.org)

### Treatment for Meth Addiction

Meth Treatment Project. [www.methamphetamine.org/mtcc.htm](http://www.methamphetamine.org/mtcc.htm)

Beating an Addiction to Meth. [www.msnbc.com/news/507186.asp?cp1=1](http://www.msnbc.com/news/507186.asp?cp1=1)

### Infants and Meth

KCI The Anti-Meth Site. [www.kci.org/meth\\_info/Crank\\_Babies](http://www.kci.org/meth_info/Crank_Babies)