



Record Meth Seizure

Last Wednesday, Mexico's army seized 15 tons of pure methamphetamine in Jalisco state. The historic bust is equal to half of all meth seizures worldwide in 2009 and was found in dozens of blue plastic barrels in a small ranch home outside Guadalajara. DEA spokesman Rusty Payne commented that "This could potentially put a huge dent in the supply chain in the U.S.," while law enforcement officials in California cautioned that the cutoff in supply from Mexico could likely lead to increases in production from domestic super labs. The meth seized would have supplied 13 million doses worth over \$4 billion in the U.S. Read more on the bust from the [Associated Press report](#). The U.S. is currently the world's biggest market for illegal drugs. Billions of dollars are spent by U.S. drug users each year, much of it then funneling back to powerful and violent drug cartels in other countries. Of U.S. drug users, former IRS agent Mike McDonald said, "They generate those dollars that in Colombia and in Mexico are turned into power, turned into extortion, turned into homicides, turned into corrupting foreign governments, arms dealing, and expanding criminal enterprises around the world." In Mexico alone, their government estimates that 47,515 people were killed in drug-related violence between the end of 2006 and September 2011.

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News and Updates

Thank you to all the teams who have sent in their January activity reports: Cheboygan PRIDE, PRIDE of Bethel Park, PRIDE of Newaygo County and Rochester PRIDE. Don't forget to send in your own team's activity report!

Letters to National Team applicants went out early this week and should be arriving soon, if not already. We were very impressed with the level of talent and commitment exhibited in this year's applicants. Whatever the contents of your letter, we applaud everyone who applied!

Living With Alcohol Use Disorders

A new report from SAMHSA has found that 7.5 million children under age 18 in the U.S. lived with a parent who has experienced an alcohol use disorder in the last year. This represents 10.5% of all U.S. children under 18. Of the 7.5 million, 6.1 million young people lived with two parents, with either one or both dealing with alcohol use disorders. Of the remaining children in single-parent homes, 1.1 million lived with a single mother. In response to the report, SAMHSA Administrator Pamela S. Hyde said, "The enormity of this public health problem goes well beyond these tragic numbers as studies have shown that the children of parents with untreated alcohol disorders are at far greater risk for developing alcohol and other problems later in their lives." The report was released in conjunction with Children of Alcoholics Week, happening this week. Read the full report at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/spotlight/Spot061ChildrenOfAlcoholics2012.pdf>.

Part of the Puzzle

Looking for a simple "getting to know you" activity for your group? Using sheets of poster board, cut out large, interlocking puzzle pieces. Make sure to have enough pieces for each team member and even the advisors. Ask team members to decorate their puzzle pieces with pictures, words, colors and other creative things to represent themselves. For example, you could include a small photo of a family member or best friend, a favorite quote or something to represent a favorite hobby. Team members can then "show and tell" their puzzle piece, explaining why they chose what they did and what it says about them. Once everyone has finished and presented their puzzle piece, they can be put back together to demonstrate that everyone brings something unique and special to the group and that, even with our differences, we can still come together for a common goal.