

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P.O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

October 22, 2007

MEMORANDUM**WHAT'S INSIDE:**

Measuring the impact of methamphetamine use/manufacture on the Child Welfare population.

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: PAULA NEESE, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: IMPACT ON THE CHILD WELFARE POPULATION
DUE TO METHAMPHETAMINE – 2006-2007

The purpose of this memorandum is to share the information on the impact of methamphetamine upon the child welfare population in our state that has been collected during 2006 and 2007. For years, we had heard how the use and manufacture of this drug has contributed to our Alternative Care caseloads. The information collected by you now gives us concrete evidence of the impact of this drug on our Alternative Care population. As you can see by the attached information the total number of children in Alternative Care as a result of methamphetamine fell in each month of 2007 when compared to the same month of 2006. In 2006 13% of all children in Alternative Care were in care as a result of methamphetamine. In 2007 11% of all children in Alternative Care were in care as a result of methamphetamine.

I want to thank each Circuit for the collecting of this important information. I realize this was labor intensive, but your efforts have been very helpful and much appreciated.

NECESSARY ACTION:

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division Staff.
2. All questions related to these procedures should be cleared through normal supervisory channels.

PN:JCH:SC:ct

Attachment: Methamphetamine Running Totals
Children In Care Graph