



Humboldt County, Nevada
Sheriff's Office
Ed Kilgore, Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: August 6, 2009

LOCATION: Humboldt County

DETAILS: In January of 2008, Humboldt County Sheriff Ed Kilgore instituted a fresh, proactive approach to tackling the drug problem in Humboldt County. January of that year marked the beginning of the Sheriff's Office Drug Endangered Children Program (DEC). The purpose of this program is to identify and remove children that are living with parents or caregivers who have serious drug problems. Law enforcement experience in this field shows that the living conditions for these children are usually very poor and oftentimes border on neglect type situations. The goal of the DEC program is to either remove these children, and possibly break the generational cycle of drug usage in some of these families, or to reunify parents with their children after programs geared to breaking the drug addictions have been entered into by the parents, or caregivers.

After approximately 18 months in existence, the Drug Endangered Children Program has developed some very impressive statistics. With primarily one Deputy Sheriff who has been responsible for putting these cases together, a total of 13 cases have been investigated. Out of these 13 cases, two persons have been placed on probation; and two have been enrolled in Drug Court.

The welfare of a total of 29 children has hopefully been made better by the DEC program. Eleven children have been successfully reunified with their parents after being cleared by the Department of Child and Family Services. One child is currently going through adoption proceedings. In addition to this, several search warrants were served, and a total of five consensual resident checks were completed. During these checks, parents and or caregivers were given safety plans to adhere to by the Department of Child and Family Services. These plans had to do with ways to better the living conditions of these children.

As these numbers demonstrate though, there is a drug issue that needs to be continually addressed in our county. Hopefully, with programs like the Drug Endangered Children Program, enforcement efforts by street officers, and specific enforcement work done by the Tri-county Drug Task Force, we will see numbers come down.

Finally, the Sheriff would like to encourage anyone in our community who may have information about a child who is living in a dangerous household as a result of drugs to please contact the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office at (775) 623-6419.

**RELEASING AUTHORITY:
SHERIFF E.R. KILGORE**

**RELEASE WRITTEN BY:
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