



"THE CARE OF HUMAN LIFE AND HAPPINESS, AND NOT THEIR DESTRUCTION, IS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE OBJECT OF GOOD GOVERNMENT."

-THOMAS JEFFERSON

The Informer

The Tennessee National Guard Counterdrug Task Force



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Making a Difference in Tennessee

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Counterdrug Task Force Works With Women Legislators at NFWL Conference

By Capt. David Roberts
Counterdrug Public Affairs

Key members of our staff, along with other state's counterdrug programs, attended the National Foundation for Women Legislators' annual conference in Louisville this past month. The NFWL conference hosts local, state and federal legislators from across the country to discuss some of the important issues facing our nation. One of their biggest concerns is the drug threat we face across America and the impact it has on our communities.



Lt. Col. Deel, State Rep. Donna Rowland and Capt. Williams discuss the counterdrug support role of the Guard

NFWL President Robin Read invited Tennessee's Counterdrug Task Force along with other states across the country to brief these legislators on the support we provide for school drug education and substance abuse treatment.

State Representative Donna Rowland from District 34 represented Tennessee at this years NFWL conference. Both Lt. Col. Deel and Capt. Williams had the opportunity to meet with Representative Rowland during a state break out session. They discussed the role of the National Guard in an initiative to provide substance abuse recovery support to Guard members who have served overseas.

Commander's Corner

By Lt. Col. Byron P. Deel
Commander, CDTF

A Prevention, Treatment, and Outreach (PTO) initiative has been established to provide prevention training, outreach to service members and their families, and access to treatment resources for members of the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard who are dealing with substance abuse issues. This program is working in coordination with several national and state partners to provide quality education and treatment options for these soldiers and airmen as well as their families.



(Above) Capt. Williams and NCPRS President Scott Steger discuss SOT success in Tennessee

Capt. Williams, our Drug Demand Reduction Administrator (DDRA), also met with Scott Steger, President of the National Center for Prevention and Research Solutions (NCPRS) to discuss the success of the Stay On Track (SOT) program in Tennessee. Capt. Williams was also able to meet with DDRA's from other states to discuss drug education problems and solutions and exchange ideas.

Sergeant Candice Frazier has been selected to serve as the Prevention Coordinator in charge of this program. She will utilize the "Train the Trainer" approach to establish points of contact in units throughout the state that will facilitate the flow of educational and treatment materials. She will promote services using marketing, networking, and consulting strategies to create a culture of responsible choices, compatible with core National Guard values, through the use of Substance Abuse Prevention and Awareness training and support. We welcome her to the CD Task Force and are excited about this new and developing program.



Lt. Col. Deel, Rep. Donna Rowland, NFWL President Robin Read and Capt. Williams

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DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION

Anti-Drug Coalitions Empower Communities

By Warrant Officer Bob Murphy
Community Coalitions Coordinator

One of the most important elements of the Tennessee National Guard's counterdrug support plan is our work with Community Anti-Drug Coalitions Across Tennessee (CADCAT) and its local member coalitions. CADCAT is the state association of community anti-drug coalitions, and provides training and technical assistance to its members in their work to develop and implement a comprehensive and community-wide prevention plan that includes multiple strategies from multiple sectors.

This coalition building campaign began in 2001 with a partnership between the Tennessee National Guard, the Nashville Prevention Partnership and two other existing coalitions within the state. The Tennessee National Guard has been instrumental in recruiting and training new coalitions to reach the current number of fifty-four registered member organizations.

As a result of this effort, Tennessee is the recipient of a grant for nearly twelve million dollars, administered through the Tennessee Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, which is designed to further support scientifically proven, effective, community based substance abuse prevention strategies.

Each member of our Drug Demand Reduction team is assigned a specific coalition to work with and we continue to provide support to these community coalitions on a daily basis. We provide programs and training that supports community based strategies. Many members of our staff also serve in leadership and management capacities as members of specific coalitions. These coalitions bring together citizens and organizations, empower communities, and reduce drug abuse in their towns and across Tennessee.

CADCAT Grateful for National Guard Support

By Pam White
Executive Director, CADCAT

The Tennessee National Guard's Counterdrug Task Force has forged strong relationships with Community Anti-Drug Coalitions Across Tennessee (CADCAT). This partnership has helped build coalitions that provide evidence based programming to keep youth drug free. The National Guard has made a real difference in Tennessee by having trained personnel on the ground with a clear mission. They work in partnership with coalitions and produce results. Our coalitions rely on these knowledgeable men and women to support their efforts.

The National Guard's missions have included support for coalitions, the STAY ON TRACK curriculum, fatal vision goggles, and drug information briefings. These missions have strengthened prevention efforts in Tennessee among law enforcement, school personnel, health providers, parents and the youth themselves. The National Guard provides up-to-date drug information and trend data. This information has helped those responsible for keeping Tennessee's children safe to make good decisions, know drug trends, and danger signals.

The US Center for Substance Abuse Prevention has developed a Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant process for data-driven decision making. Working within the state's SPF-SIG process, the unit helps local communities ensure planning translates to outcomes. Through the SPF-SIG, Tennessee has been awarded nearly \$12 Million in a grant covering 30 coalitions over the next five years. Tennessee is one of only a hand full of states receiving this anti-drug coalition grant. Our thanks to the Counterdrug Task Force for helping to make this possible. Tennessee counties benefiting from the grant include (Cohort 1) Bradley, Coffee, Davidson, Hamilton, Haywood, Humphreys, Jackson, Johnson, Putnam, Rutherford, Sumner, Tipton, Trousdale, Washington, Weakley, and (Cohort 2) Blount, Cocke, Fentress, Franklin, Gibson, Hamblen, Hardeman, Houston, Knox, McNairy, Madison, Maury, Polk, Roane and Scott.



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Red Ribbon Week

By Capt. Linda Williams
DDR Administrator

It's Autumn once again and that means Red Ribbon Week. This year Tennessee celebrated Red Ribbon Week the 21st through 26th of October. Red Ribbon Week is about encouraging kids and giving them the opportunity to openly express their desire to be drug free. This year the Counterdrug Task Force distributed **20,000 Red Ribbons** to schools all across Tennessee and DDR personnel conducted over **40 Red Ribbon events**.

Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. The ribbons are worn as a symbol of honor and remembrance for DEA Special Agent Enrique Camarena who was killed while investigating drug traffickers in 1985.

FY 2008 STATS

*Tennesseans Reached
From 1 Oct to Present*

Elementary School.....	3,747
Middle School.....	9,522
High School.....	3,507
College/University.....	6
Adults.....	2,228
Total.....	19,010

Sixth Graders at Bearden Middle Show They Can STAY ON TRACK



By 1st Sgt. Michael Miller
DDR Representative

Students at Bearden Middle School in Knox County completed the first of four Stay On Track courses scheduled for the sixth grade. At the end of this school year, the entire 6th grade will have participated in the SOT program. A special thanks to the Knox County Drug Commission for purchasing 200 Stay On Track student workbooks!

A Special Thank You To The National Guard

By Laura T. Harrill
Director, Community Outreach
Blount Co. Memorial Hospital



Just a note to let you know how much we appreciated 1st Sgt. Miller, S/Sgt. Copeland and Sgt. Edmisten being the main attraction at our recent Red Ribbon Celebration in Blount County at the Boys and Girls Club on October 24, 2007. Thank you for making all the arrangements to bring the drug prevention trailer, man the trailer and hold the demonstration on tobacco prevention.

Even the adults who were supervising the youth at the Boys and Girls Club were so impressed. One told me, "I am so glad I got to see all this, it was a real eye-opener!" We are so blessed to have guard members like Mike and Doug and Kelly willing to work in drug reduction and make a difference in our community. We hope you will be able to come to Blount County again sometime!

Saving One At A Time

Mr. Faulkner Burg,
The day when you were telling us how to say no last week, I went to the game that night and these two girls took out enough cigarettes to give one to everyone and all my friends started smoking and I used one of those phrases and it worked. Thank You
So mucho bb

By Sgt Patrick Falkinburg
DDR Representative

I currently teach the Stay On Track curriculum to sixth graders at Portland Middle School in Sumner County. After one of my classes, I received a note from a student telling me how some of the lessons have helped her say no to the offer of cigarettes during a middle school football game. The lesson we had just completed was on Assertive Communication. The Assertive Communication Lesson helps the kids understand how to reject the negative behavior, but not the person. They learn to use counter phrases, assertive body language, and counter offers when saying no. They work through several "what would you say" and "how would you say it" situations.

Although cigarettes aren't illegal, they often times lead young people to other bad habits that are. The kind of habits that destroy lives before they have a chance to understand living. Being able to influence someone young in such a positive way makes everything I do worth doing.

Weeding and Seeding in East Tennessee

By Sgt. Doug Edmisten
Weed & Seed Coordinator /
U.S. Attorney's Office Liaison

Weed and Seed is a federal grant program through the Department of Justice that does exactly what it says; weed out the bad and seed with the good. Through a \$1 Million grant over a five year period, the program supports interdiction and educational initiatives in areas with high concentrations of drug abuse. Currently, there are six Weed & Seed sites in eastern Tennessee. Three are located in Chattanooga with the other three divided between Bristol, Kingsport, and Johnson City. As Weed & Seed Coordinator, I sit on the Steering Committee for all of the sites and work as the liaison to the Department of Justice and our US Attorney Russ Dedrick. I visit these locations every month to help develop strategies that deal with the specific drug problems their communities are facing.



Sgt. Edmisten takes part in a news conference recognizing the East Chattanooga Weed & Seed Site.

Student Wellness Initiative Promotes Healthy Decisions



Staff Sgt. Tony Lane and Sgt. Thomas Vaughn give students a tour of the Drug Awareness Trailer

Story and Photos courtesy of the Lexington Progress

As part of the Coordinated School Health Initiative, the Lexington City School System joined with other community agencies to focus on student wellness last week. Students' health and their capacity to learn are enhanced through the combined efforts of families, communities and schools.

The Tennessee National Guard Drug Awareness Trailer visited the Lexington Middle School. Sergeant Tommy Vaughn and Staff Sergeant Tony Lane conducted small group tours of the trailer for all students, teachers, and interested parents. They also did a meth awareness video presentation for all students.

DRUG INTERDICTION SUPPORT

Recon Team Supports TBI in Meth Ring Round-Up

By Recon Team 2
Ground Interdiction Team

The Counterdrug Ground Interdiction Team recently received a phone call from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation in need of reconnaissance support. TBI Special Agents were investigating a long running methamphetamine distribution case. Our team quickly mobilized in order to conduct operations early the next morning. We deployed two teams to conduct reconnaissance on separate locations that were linked to the case but not yet indicted. During the reconnaissance, real time information was relayed to local law enforcement to conduct interdiction stops. This resulted in additional arrests being made and drugs being seized.

The remainder of the task force, consisting of federal, state, and local agencies, served warrants on numerous locations throughout Tennessee. When all was said and done, one million dollars in property had been seized, 6 arrests made, along with \$30,000 in cash, methamphetamine and marijuana.

The National Guardsmen supporting reconnaissance missions for law enforcement provide assistance in a support role only. Their specialized training in camouflage, video and photography makes them a valuable tool for gathering information on drug trafficking.

Wilson County SRT Trains With Counterdrug LAV



The Wilson County Special Response Team conducts a downed officer recovery drill.

By the LAV Crew Chief
Ground Interdiction Team

The Light Armored Vehicle crew had the opportunity to conduct training for the Wilson County Sheriff's Special Response Team. This was our second training event in 2007 with the Wilson County SRT.

The Light Armored Vehicle or LAV is used to transport law enforcement officers to search warrant locations where the possibility of confrontation exists. The LAV increases officer safety by giving them armored protection up to the last possible moment.

FY 2008 SEIZURES

From 1 Oct to Present

** Seizure information is from drug cases that were supported by the Counterdrug Task Force through Criminal Analysis, Ground or Aerial Reconnaissance.

Cocaine (lbs.).....	0.006
Meth (lbs.).....	1.3
Heroin (lbs.).....	0
Other drugs (lbs.).....	0
Vehicles.....	0
Weapons.....	0
Marijuana (plants).....	0
Processed Marijuana (lbs.)	0.5
Other Drugs (pills).....	0
Ecstasy (pills).....	0
Currency.....	\$30,000
Property(\$vaule).....	\$1,000,000
Arrests.....	7

