



# In the Shadow of Meth



## Meth Epidemic in the Midwest

Methamphetamine affects more than just the person ravaged by their addiction. The story of the meth epidemic in the Midwest will be told firsthand through those hardest hit: the members of families torn apart by this insidious drug, the criminal justice system scrambling to contain a drug supply that seemingly has no end, the medical and counseling professions struggling to find treatment that works, and the first hand stories of those addicts (recovering and otherwise) who are living their life one day at a time in the shadow of meth.

In **The Shadow of Meth** is being produced by a consortium of public television and radio stations in some of the states hardest hit by the meth epidemic: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Kansas City.

In addition, South Dakota Public Broadcasting will air two episodes of the live call-in show, **SD Focus**, and discuss the issue of meth, and its impact on the state. **SD Focus** will air Thursday, April 5 and Thursday, April 12 at 9:00pm Central, 8:00pm Mountain on statewide SDPB-TV.

SDPB Radio will produce a 5-part series on meth which will air for a week in early April weekdays at 7:30am and 5:30pm Central.

### The Shadow of Meth

Premiering April 12, 2007

8:00 pm CT/ 7:00 MT on SDPB Television

#### SD Focus: The Shadow of Meth Preview

April 5, 2007

9:00 CT/ 8:00 MT on SDPB Television

#### SD Focus: The Shadow of Meth Follow-Up

April 12, 2007

9:00 pm CT/ 8 MT on SDPB Television



SDPB  
South Dakota  
Public Broadcasting

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### Rundown

- **Nuts and Bolts** Prairie Public  
An interview with Biochemist Roxanne Vaughn explains the physical workings of methamphetamine on the brain.
- **The All American Drug** Prairie Public  
College student Andy's addiction rapidly engulfed his life as he moved from experimenting to dependence to dealing.
- **Trafficking in Death** Prairie Public  
Sheriff Scott Bushing and his small force in rural Williams County has been overrun responding to the meth epidemic.
- **Downward Spiral** Prairie Public  
UCLA research psychologist Dr. Richard Rawson is one of the leading experts on meth addiction.
- **Hitting Rock Bottom** South Dakota  
Unlike many other illegal drugs, meth seems to have a special attraction for women.
- **Health impact** Prairie Public  
The physical damage caused by long term meth addiction can be terrible.
- **Fighting Your Way Back** Nebraska  
Jackie Peterson is still struggling with the lingering health affects of her former \$300 a day meth habit.
- **She's My Child** Prairie Public  
Ruth was the picture-perfect daughter. Her parents were shocked by what they discovered about her secret life as a meth addict.
- **Inside Treatment** KCPT  
For families, the expectation that treatment will magically cure their loved ones often leads to disappointment and frustration.
- **Paying the Bills** Prairie Public  
A brief narrative of what treatment costs around the country and who pays the bills.
- **A Small Town Nightmare** Pioneer  
In many close-knit rural communities, the meth epidemic took the public by surprise even though drug experts had warned of its arrival in the Midwest.
- **The Jails Overflow** Prairie Public  
In North Dakota, the state's prison is being overwhelmed by the number of prisoners with meth addictions.
- **The Revolving door** Prairie Public  
Developer Dr. Richard Rawson discusses why meth addicts find it so difficult to quit and how.
- **Meth Vaccine** Nebraska  
University of Nebraska researchers explore the possibility of developing a vaccine that will help addicts overcome their illness.
- **Drug Court** Wisconsin  
The drug court in St. Croix County is helping one young mother get her life – and her children – back.
- **Meth Babies** Iowa  
Meth doesn't just destroy the life of the user. Children suffer emotional and physical long term effects of their parents' meth use.
- **Alyssa's Story** Nebraska  
Five year old Alyssa and her foster parents struggle with the medical effects of her birth mother's meth use.
- **Combating Meth** Iowa  
In southeastern Iowa, 10 counties have banded together to combat meth in their communities in order to protect the children that suffer from their parents' drug addictions.
- **Making Amends** South Dakota  
Seeing Jeremy now, lecturing kids on the dangers of meth addiction, it's hard to believe that he clawed his way up from a profound addiction and a life as a hardened meth manufactures.

**Please contact:** Stephanie Rissler at 1-800-456-0766 for more information.