MARIJUANA PREVENTION INITIATIVE 2015/16

East Region Live Well
August 11, 2015

Funded by the County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Services
AGENDA

- Background
- Data - County and East Region
- East Region Recommendations
- Call to Action
Problem Statement: High levels of marijuana use among youth (12-25) in San Diego county negatively affect overall health, which contributes to both family and community-level problems.

MPI supports the County’s Live Well Initiative, Healthy, Safe and Thriving
1996 - Prop 215/Compassionate Use Act of 1996 was a voter initiative supported by 56% of voters to give Californians the right to use marijuana for medical reasons if recommended by a doctor. CA was the 1st state to pass a medical marijuana law.

2001 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled there was no medical exception to federal marijuana laws meaning that it was still illegal to sell or distribute the drug even when state laws, like those in California, allow it.

2004 – SB 420/The Medical Marijuana Program (MMP) Act required the CA Dept of Public Health to develop a voluntary program to register medical marijuana users and their caregivers. Also mandated counties to participate.

2008 - Then Attorney General Brown established the “Guidelines for the Security and Non-Diversion of Marijuana Grown for Medical use.”
2005 to 2009 - San Diego County Board of Supervisors filed a lawsuit to overturn Prop 215 & SB 420 (12-2005). CA Supreme Court rejected the San Diego County case 11-06. An appeal was filed and rejected 10-2008. The US Supreme Court refused to hear the case on 5-19-2009.

7/6/2009 - County began issuing Medical Marijuana Program (MMP) Cards

2010 - County Medical Marijuana Collective Program was adopted, which outlines how and where medical marijuana collectives can operate in the unincorporated areas under the supervision of the Sheriff.

2011 - County approved Zoning Ordinance amendments to the existing Medical Marijuana Collective Facilities Ordinance – designated areas of operation.
Decrease community acceptance and tolerance of youth marijuana use;

- through reduced availability

- increased public awareness regarding the harms of youth marijuana use.
Decrease in perceived risk of harm.

Favorable policies & attitudes toward marijuana.

Higher potency products produced and marketed.

Increase in access to marijuana (delivery, masked products).

The good news ....

- Increasingly available research regarding the effects of marijuana on the adolescent brain.
- Some studies link use to mental health issues and poor academic performance.
Strength of weed seized by federal authorities has steadily risen over time.

Denver retail outlets advertise strains containing 25 +% THC*.

*THC is tetrahydrocannabinol, the main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.
WAX, BUTANE HASH OIL, EDIBLES/FOODS
(AVERAGE JOINT CONTAINS 1-3% THC, CONCENTRATES MAY CONTAIN 30-90% THC)
Marijuana food products are currently unregulated!

✓ While all food products and drug products are regulated, there is no federal (FDA) or state oversight

✓ There are no quality control requirements regarding dosage or use to safeguard against unintentional poisoning or overdose

✓ Food and snack packaging is youth friendly
East Region
The following provides FY 12/13 Grossmont CHKS data in relationship to County-level statistics.

Grossmont and Mountain Empire Districts FY 13/14 are presented separately for informational purposes only and should not be compared.
SD County and Grossmont District Youth Marijuana Use: Past 30-Day
2012/13 Student Reported Indicators

SD County and Grossmont District Youth Marijuana Use: Daily (20 or More Times in Past Month)

- 9th Grade:
  - San Diego County: 3%
  - Grossmont Union: 4%

- 11th Grade:
  - San Diego County: 4%
  - Grossmont Union: 5%
SD County and Grossmont District: Perception of Harm

Students Reporting that Smoking Marijuana Once or Twice a Week is **Not Harmful** or **Only Slightly Harmful**

- 9th Grade
  - San Diego County: 34%
  - Grossmont Union: 34%

- 11th Grade
  - San Diego County: 39%
  - Grossmont Union: 43%
SD County Youth Marijuana: Ease of Access

Students Reporting that Marijuana is **Very Easy** or **Fairly Easy** to Obtain

- **9th Grade**:
  - San Diego County: 51%
  - Grossmont Union: 54%

- **11th Grade**:
  - San Diego County: 68%
  - Grossmont Union: 70%
2013/14 Student Reported Indicators

Mountain Empire Unified School District
Marijuana Use and Related Perceptions

Ease of Access: Marijuana is Very Easy or Fairly Easy to Obtain
- 9th Grade (N=66): 60%
- 11th Grade (N=66): 73%

Perception of Harm: Smoking Marijuana Once or Twice a Week is Not Harmful or Only Slightly Harmful
- 9th Grade (N=66): 46%
- 11th Grade (N=66): 61%

Past 30-Day Use
- 9th Grade (N=66): 22%
- 11th Grade (N=66): 30%

Daily Use (20 or More Times in Past Month)
- 9th Grade (N=66): 3%
- 11th Grade (N=66): 5%
Grossmont Union High School District
Marijuana Use and Related Perceptions

- **Ease of Access: Marijuana is Very Easy or Fairly Easy to Obtain**
  - 9th Grade (N=3,448): 52%
  - 11th Grade (N=2,954): 69%

- **Perception of Harm: Smoking Marijuana Once or Twice a Week is Not Harmful or Only Slightly Harmful**
  - 9th Grade (N=3,448): 32%
  - 11th Grade (N=2,954): 41%

- **Past 30-Day Use**
  - 9th Grade (N=3,448): 12%
  - 11th Grade (N=2,954): 19%

- **Daily Use (20 or More Times in Past Month)**
  - 9th Grade (N=3,448): 3%
  - 11th Grade (N=2,954): 5%
Percent of adolescents admitted to a County-funded treatment facility in March 2015 reporting marijuana/hashish as their primary drug of choice.

- Central: 33%
- East: 22%
- N. Inland: 21%
- N. Coastal: 11%
- South: 5%
- N. Central: 4%
- Out of County: 2%
- Out of State: 1%
- Homeless: 1%

*Region is determined by the zip code of reported client residence.
Past 30 Day Marijuana Use among young adults ages 19-28 at the highest level since 1988!

Daily Marijuana Use among young adults ages (19-28) at the highest since 1986!

Source: Monitoring the Future Survey 2013 volume 2 - College Student and Adult ages 19 – 55
EAST REGION RECOMMENDATIONS
Inform the community about issues involving drugged driving.

Host forums, workshops and trainings that discuss harms to youth, specifically our “at risk youth”.

Develop media pieces and events that highlight the negative health impacts on youth (use of social media).

Invite Sheriff’s licensing division to give yearly updates.

Track and monitor dispensaries around youth-sensitive locations. Work with Planning and Land Use.
County Ordinance currently does not allow the sale of edible products!
- However, they sell the ingredients to make the edible products.
- 2 separate ballot initiatives were voted down in La Mesa and Lemon Grove to allow dispensaries 2014.

Under current County Ordinance – total of 150 designated locations for dispensaries in unincorporated region
- Must be 1,000 feet from schools, parks, & youth-sensitive locations.

In County Unincorporated region, currently 4 pending licenses:
- 2 Ramona
- 1 Lakeside
- 1 El Cajon pending, and 1 currently exists
CALL TO ACTION
1. Continue reaching out to non-traditional schools and “at risk youth”
   - conduct focus groups, forums, workshops, and recruit at-risk youth to participate in youth group activities.

2. Continue to track dispensaries and proximity to youth-sensitive locations.

3. Engage in information dissemination on dangers through
   - social media, trainings, media events, workshops, and community forums.
Develop media pieces regarding:

- Adolescent health impacts related to marijuana use.

To inform of the impacts to youth in states that have already legalized marijuana that includes truancy, school performance, youth homeless rates, other drug use trends, drugged driving, developmental issues including brain impacts and mental health issues.

Emerging trends include: increased use, paraphernalia and vaping, food/snack products, increased potency, delivery services and other access points including phone “apps” available for easy access.
- Engage property managers to include “marijuana specific language” in lease addendums & CFMH complexes.
  - prohibit vaping devices
  - Include smoke free policies in lease addendums

- Develop notification policy for proposed new outlets and allow public feedback before license is issued. (emphasis on locations near youth sensitive locations)

- Include drug clauses in Social Host Ordinances (Ex: Santee)
April 2010

- It is unlawful for any person having control of any premises to knowingly host, permit, or allow a gathering to take place at said premises where at least one minor consumes an alcoholic beverage, marijuana or other controlled substance whenever the person having control of the premises either knows a minor has consumed an alcoholic beverage, marijuana or other controlled substance or reasonably should have known that a minor consumed an alcoholic beverage, marijuana or other controlled substance had the person taken all reasonable steps to prevent the consumption of an alcoholic beverage, marijuana or other controlled substance by a minor as set forth in subsection (A)(1) of this section.
Multiple resources, info cards, data, PowerPoints available for download.

Half day trainings available regarding marijuana, prescription drugs and synthetics.

MPI YouTube Account
QUESTIONS?