Introduction

- Meth began reaching epidemic proportions in the late 90’s across the United States
- The effects were almost immediately devastating.
How Serious?

- 2006 National Methamphetamine Initiative Survey
- 74% responded that “Meth” posed the greatest threat to the communities they serve.
- 43% reported powder “Meth” is in high supply
- 46% reported crystal “Meth” is in high supply

CRIME

- Increase in crimes due to “Meth”
  - Domestic Violence  64%
  - Burglary Crimes    57%
  - Homicide          04%
  - Assault / Battery 64%
  - Child Neglect / Abuse 48%
  - Elderly Abuse    24%
  - Armed Robbery   02%
  - Sexual Crimes    22%
  - Weapons Violations 31%
Effects In Jails

- Overcrowding
- Intensified Supervision
  - “Spun –Up”
  - Harming Themselves
  - Euphoria
  - Insomnia
  - Anxiety
  - Fighting
  - Lack of Respect for Property and Others

Effects Continued

- Violence
  - Harm to others
  - Harm to self
  - Destruction / Damaging Property
- Contraband Control
  - Attempting to make “Meth”
  - Hoarding
  - Smuggling
  - Nuisance Contraband
Effects Continued

- Mental Health Issues
  - Depression
  - Irrational Behavior
  - Paranoia
  - Confusion

Effects Continued

- Health Care Concerns
- Neurotoxin Effects
- Increased Heart Rate
- Increased Blood Pressure
- Higher Risks of Strokes
- Respiratory Problems
- Irregular Heart Rate
Effects Continued

“Meth Mouth”

Meth users, on the average increase the cost of housing from $20.00 per day or more

At $20.00 per day x 365 days = $7300.00 per inmate annually
Effects Continued

- Officer Safety
- Special Management Needs
- Need for Overtime
- Reduced Resources

Steps to Consider

- Staff Training and Education
- Drug Courts
- Effective Treatments
- Specialized Centers
- Community Awareness
- Closer Monitoring
- After Care / post incarceration