

“Some teenagers are popping pills as if they were candy.”



PRESCRIPTION ADDICTION prevention begins at home

Shelby County
District Attorney's
Office



Shelby County
Drug Enforcement
Task Force



“Addiction to prescription drugs is as real and as devastating as addiction to illegal drugs. In Shelby County, the abuse of prescription drugs is growing at an alarming rate among teens as well as adults. Because these problems often begin in the home, we as parents must do everything possible to address these problems in the home. Talk to your children about all types of drug abuse.”

- J. MICHAEL JOINER, PRESIDING CIRCUIT JUDGE, SHELBY COUNTY

“Teenagers who abuse prescription drugs risk everything...their happiness, their future and ultimately their lives. One of the greatest acts of love parents can do for their children is lock up their prescriptions.”

-SHELBY COUNTY SHERIFF CHRIS CURRY

“Teenagers abuse prescription drugs more than any illicit street drug except marijuana. Too many of our children are becoming addicted to prescription drugs because they do not realize that they can be as dangerous as street drugs. Please take time to talk to your kids about the dangers of prescription drug abuse.”

-SHELBY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ROBBY OWENS

“I have seen a dramatic increase in the number of prescription drug overdoses in Shelby County. These deaths cross over age, race and economic lines. Prescription medication is meant to be taken ONLY as prescribed, and ONLY by the person for whom it is prescribed. Taking too many pills or mixing drugs together leads to respiratory arrest. In other words, you stop breathing and you die!”

-SHELBY COUNTY CORONER DIANA HAWKINS

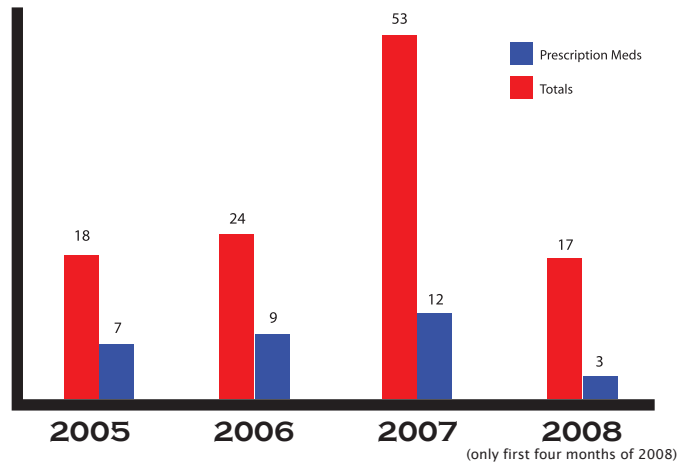
“Parents need to be aware that prescription medications are dangerous if used improperly. More and more children today are turning to their parent’s medicine cabinet as a cheap and easy way to get high. Help us keep our teenagers safe from harm by monitoring and securing all prescription medications.”

**-LT. CODY SUMNERS, COMMANDER, SHELBY COUNTY
DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE**

SHELBY COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE

DIANA HAWKINS, SHELBY COUNTY CORONER

APRIL 24, 2008



2008 DRUG OVERDOSE STATISTICS (FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 2008)

Pending	Methadone	Cocaine	Prescription Meds	Total
5	4	0	3	17
Amphetamines	Combination of Legal and Illegal Drugs			
0	4			

Prescription meds consist of: Morphine, Hydrocodone, Oxycontin, Ambien.

2007 DRUG OVERDOSE STATISTICS

Pending	Methadone	Cocaine	Prescription Meds	Total
3	10	4	12	47
Amphetamines	Combination of Legal and Illegal Drugs			
1	17			

Prescription meds consist of: Morphine, Hydrocodone, Dilaudid, Oxycontin, Demerol, Ambien, Xanax.

2006 DRUG OVERDOSE STATISTICS

Pending	Methadone	Cocaine	Prescription Meds	Total
2	8	5	9	24
Prescription meds consist of: Hydrocodone, Oxycontin, Diazepam, Xanax, and Ambien.				

2005 DRUG OVERDOSE STATISTICS

Pending	Methadone	Cocaine	Prescription Meds	Total
0	9	2	7	18
Prescription meds consist of: Hydrocodone, Diazepam, Morphine, and Xanax.				

THE ELEVEN MOST ABUSED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN AMERICA

OPIOIDS:

Prescribed
to relieve pain

OxyContin



Lortab



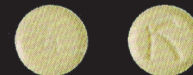
Darvon



Vicodin



Dilaudid



Demerol



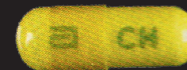
Valium



Xanax



Nembutal



Adderall



Ritalin



DEPRESSANTS:

Treatment of
anxiety and sleep
disorders

STIMULANTS:

Treatment of
Narcolepsy, ADHD,
Obesity, and
Depression

BUSTING THE MYTHS ABOUT PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:

Nearly three out of ten teens (29% or 6.8 billion) believe prescription pain relievers—even if not prescribed by a doctor—are not addictive.

One-third of teens (31% or 7.3 million) believe there's "nothing wrong" with using prescription medicines without a prescription once in a while.

When teens abuse prescription drugs, they often characterize their use of the drugs as "responsible," "controlled" or "safe," with the perception that the drugs are safer than street drugs.

(Teens and Prescription Drugs: An analysis of recent trends on emerging drug threat. Office of National Drug Control Policy, February 2007)

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE?

Know your drugs. Talk to your doctor and pharmacist about what you are taking. Read the inserts that come with your drugs.

Control your drugs. Know how many you have, where they are, and who has access to them. You may need to lock them up to prevent abuse by anyone who may have access.

Properly dispose of unused and out of date drugs. Ask your pharmacist as some drugs are potentially harmful to the environment.

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Leadership
SHELBY COUNTY



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