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Project Targets Youth in Hopes of Preventing Meth Use

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The Georgia Meth Project is trying to combat teens from trying the highly addictive drug methamphetamine even just once with extreme ads aimed at youth.

But these ads aren't just to scare kids out of trying drugs, they're true stories taken from the pages of Georgia teens real lives.

Evangelist Ricardo can attest to the ads. As former meth addict, Ricardo knows just how dangerous the powerful drug can be.

"I was so skinny that you could see every bone, my cheeks, my eyes were popped out, I looked like death itself."

The Georgia Meth Project is trying to save kids from becoming what Ricardo used to be. On Thursday, the Project met with local leaders and advocates to brainstorm ways to save our teens.

GMP Executive Director Jim Langford explained, "A high percentage of young people know about the drug, even 20% of them say it's easy to get..... that's a very alarming statistic."

35% of teen say there's no harm in trying it, and 23% believe there's an actual benefit from using meth. Meth is 4 times more powerful than cocaine, and users can become addicted to it after just one use.

Families Against Meth Abuse President James Rockefeller explained how addictive the drug is.

"It's hitting family members suddenly, and in a way that no other drug hits family members."

At the community forum, people gathered ideas to help combat the growing problem and bring light to the fact that yes, meth is being cooked and sold in our own backyards.

Ricardo says his life has changed because someone helped save him, so he's going to help save the lives of those crippled by methamphetamine.

"When God gives you your life back, he expects you to do your best to help others."

The GMP will perform another poll on Georgia teens once the ads are finished airing. The project plans to help energize and create groups to combat the problem locally once the ad concludes.