

What if?

The potential impact of marijuana legalization

September 3, 2015

Sinclair Conference Center - Charity Early Auditorium

Building 12, Sinclair Community College

Dayton, Ohio 45402

Across the country, the legal status of marijuana and societal norms regarding its use are shifting. Our communities are being asked to make decisions that impact public health and safety, without having access to research-based information about those impacts. As communities grapple with this often contentious issue, it is vital to provide community gatekeepers at all levels with the most up-to-date information which they can then share with others.

Join us as we explore the impact of new marijuana policies in other states and the potential impact of shifting policies here in our own community. Intensive sessions will be offered in the afternoon that focus on the impact in four key community sectors: business, law enforcement, medical/health, and youth.

Participants will receive:

Updates on key and breaking marijuana policy issues.

Information and tools which will help you promote community health and safety.

Opportunities to discuss the potential impact of marijuana legalization with other community leaders.

See below for agenda, session descriptions, and presenter information.

This training has been approved for 4.5 hours of Continuing Education for Counselors, Social Workers, RNs/LPNs, Psychologists, Ohio Certified Prevention Specialists, and Chemical Dependency Counselors by the OhioMHAS Continuing Education Committee.

Cost: \$10 Morning program only
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (includes parking)
\$25 Full day
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (includes box lunch & parking)

To Register: [Click here.](#)

Questions? For program content, contact Allison Sharer, asharer@mcadamhs.org
For registration, contact Carrie Rogge, crogge@mcadamhs.org 937-443-0416 x. 127



Overview of the Day

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration**

9:00 – 12:00 **Welcome**

The Impact of Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado

Jim Gerhardt, North Metro Task Force – Denver & the Colorado Drug
Investigators Association

Ohio's Proposed Initiatives: Overview & Discussion

Resources You Can Use

12:00 – 1:00 **Boxed lunch**

& Screening of *Then and Now: Industry Playbooks and Addiction Marketing*

1:00 – 3:00 **Intensive Sessions**

Impact on Ohio Businesses

Impact on Law Enforcement

Impact on Medical and Healthcare

Impact on Youth

About Our Keynote Speaker

Sergeant Jim Gerhardt

North Metro Task Force (Denver)

Vice President, Colorado Drug Investigators Association

Sergeant Jim Gerhardt has 27 years of experience as a commissioned law enforcement officer with the Thornton Police Department. Jim has been assigned to the North Metro Task Force for 17 years working and supervising undercover drug investigations throughout the northern Denver-Metro Area. Jim is also the vice president of the Colorado Drug Investigators Association and a founding member of the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. Jim has worked closely with the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program and has presented findings from their report on the impact of marijuana legalization in Colorado to many groups across the country.

Lunchtime Screening:

Then and Now: Industry Playbooks and Addiction Marketing

The marijuana industry is booming. This video presentation will take a look how “Big Marijuana” is following the playbook developed by Big Tobacco, which pioneered compelling addiction marketing strategies to build a massive consumer base of lifetime users that led to a national public health crisis.

Impact on Ohio's Businesses

Presenter: Karen Pierce, Managing Director, Working Partners Systems, Inc.

There will be significant operational and financial implications for businesses if Ohio legalizes marijuana for medical and/or personal use, particularly in the areas of workforce readiness, operational issues and legal considerations. The business sector needs to be informed on the issue so they can make wise decisions about their drug-free workplace programs, and how to address the issue with employees, applicants, colleagues and business associates. This intensive session will explore the impact of marijuana legalization on the workplace and our state's available workforce, and address some of the common questions currently being asked by both employers and their employees.

Objectives:

Identify operational and financial implications of marijuana legalization to Ohio's employers.

Review specific ballot language that speaks directly to businesses and discuss concerns.

Review strategies businesses will need to implement to protect themselves against the impact of marijuana legalization.

About the Presenter:

Karen Pierce is the Managing Director of Policy Development & Training for *Working Partners*®, a training and consulting firm specializing in helping workplaces develop and maintain drug-free workplace programs. She has worked in the alcohol/drug profession for 32 years and has devoted the past 22 years of her career to drug-free workplace issues. She has received several distinctions for her work in the prevention field including the Alcohol/Drug Abuse Prevention Association of Ohio's "Excellence in Prevention" and "Prevention Advocate" awards.

Impact on Law Enforcement

Presenters: Jim Gerhardt, North Metro Task Force (Denver) and Colorado Drug Investigators Association
Derek Siegle, Executive Director of Ohio's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program

Join Jim Gerhardt and Derek Siegle as they explore concerns of marijuana legalization for the law enforcement community, including barriers and concerns related to drugged driving, abuses of the medical system, and increased access and availability. Jim Gerhardt will share experiences and insights from Colorado, and Derek Siegle will present concerns related to specific proposals here in Ohio. Ample opportunities for dialogue and discussion will be provided.

Objectives:

Provide insight from firsthand experiences of the impact of marijuana legalization on law enforcement and the judicial system in Colorado.

Explore concerns for Ohio's law enforcement community should marijuana be legalized in our state.

Discuss barriers and concerns related to law enforcement in a legalized environment.

Impact on Law Enforcement

About the Presenters

Sergeant Jim Gerhardt has 27 years of experience as a commissioned law enforcement officer with the Thornton Police Department. Jim has been assigned to the North Metro Task Force for 17 years working and supervising undercover drug investigations throughout the northern Denver-Metro Area. Jim is also the vice president of the Colorado Drug Investigators Association and a founding member of the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. Jim has worked closely with the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program and had presented findings from their report on the impacts of marijuana legalization in Colorado to many groups across the country.

Derek Siegle is the Executive Director of the Ohio HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Program. He has held this position since September 2009. Prior to becoming the Executive Director, Mr. Siegle served in the FBI for almost 23 years retiring as the Criminal/Administrative Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Cleveland Division. In this position, Mr. Siegle was responsible for the FBI's efforts to combat violent crimes, drugs, and gangs in the Northern District of Ohio. He served in the Albuquerque, Cleveland, Detroit, Louisville, and Salt Lake City Divisions in addition to three tours at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Mr. Siegle was a Twinsburg Police Officer prior to joining the FBI.

Impact on Medical and Healthcare

Presenter: Ewald Horwath, MD, MS, Professor & Chair
Department of Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University

Dr. Ewald Horwath will explore impacts that the medical and healthcare community may face as a result of marijuana legalization. He will present key research findings regarding medical, psychiatric and developmental effects of marijuana, as well as safety concerns such as accidental injuries and ingestions. Evidence for possible uses of cannabis-based medicines will also be discussed, and how these medicines differ from legalizing use of marijuana as a medicine, as other states have done.

Objectives:

Describe the evidence for the adverse medical, psychiatric, and developmental effects of marijuana.

Describe the effects of marijuana on motor vehicle operation, accidental injuries, and ingestions.

Explore the scientific evidence to support possible uses of cannabis-based medicines.

Explore the tenets of medicine and compare them to protocols for use of marijuana as a medicine in other states and as proposed in Ohio.

About the Presenter:

Ewald Horwath, M.D., M.S., LFAPA, received his medical degree at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He completed a residency in Psychiatry at the New York State Psychiatric Institute and New York-Presbyterian Hospital, which are affiliated teaching hospitals of the Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons in New York City. Following his residency, he was an NIMH-sponsored Fellow in Psychiatric Epidemiology at the Columbia University School of Public Health and earned an M.S. degree in Epidemiology. He has authored 30 articles in peer-reviewed journals and more than 20 book chapters and reviews. Dr. Horwath serves as the Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University at the MetroHealth System. He started MetroHealth Recovery Services, an outpatient substance abuse treatment program that includes an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP). He developed a new mental health service at the Cuyahoga County Jail and formed an integrated reentry program that provides post-release mental health, primary care, and substance abuse treatment.

Impact on Youth

Presenter: Ty Sells, OCPS II, Director of Training
Youth to Youth International

More than twice as many youth today smoke marijuana than cigarettes. And many young people think smoking pot is “no big deal” or even “safe.” This session will examine how the perceptions of risk and use rates among youth have been impacted by shifting policies and norms surrounding this drug. Recommended strategies will be presented for engaging youth in conversation about marijuana; a conversation that is free of preaching and politics, but full of relevant facts to assist youth in making healthier decisions.

Objectives:

Explore how shifting laws and norms regarding marijuana have impacted the perception of risk and use rates among youth.

Discuss concerns of proposed changes to the legal status of marijuana in Ohio and the potential increase in access and availability of this drug among youth.

Provide proven strategies for engaging youth in informed dialogues about marijuana.

About the Presenter:

Ty Sells has been involved in the field of youth development and prevention for over twenty- seven years. Ty is currently the Director of Training for Youth to Youth International and assists communities and schools in their prevention and youth leadership programs by designing and conducting trainings to meet their needs. Ty has developed and implemented trainings with content including decision -making, violence prevention, teambuilding, small group facilitation, public speaking and adult/youth connections. He is also a highly sought after motivational speaker, who has shared his message of acceptance and inspiration with teens, parents, and adults who work with youth all over the world.

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