

# IDAHO OFFICE OF DRUG POLICY



JUNE 2018



*Program Spotlight: Penny's Prevention Services  
Mountain View High School SRO  
Idaho Supports High Visibility Enforcement  
Kay Bennett: Outstanding Prevention Advocate  
Introduction to Substance Abuse Prevention course*

## Penny's Prevention Services

Congratulations to Penny Jones!



Bruneau-Grandview Joint School District #365

Since 2002, Penny Jones has been the champion of all things prevention in the Bruneau/Grandview area. She has been responsible for the administration, implementation and delivery of the school district's Positive Action, Project Alert and Project Towards No Drug Abuse programs, literally touching the lives of each and every student in the district as he/she progressed from elementary through high school.

And she will tell you, "It's been the best job ever."

Penny turned a personal passion for substance abuse prevention and recovery into a full-time job as a teacher, advocate, and district consultant. Her dedication and spirit were celebrated in 2010 when she received the Patricia Kempthorne Prevention Award for Region III. Additionally, Penny has served on the Board of Directors for both the Region III Behavioral Health Board and Community Coalitions of Idaho. Penny always found a way to say "yes" to new ideas and new opportunities for learning, even when they proved to be challenging. After 17 years, Penny will be retiring this summer to spend more time with her family, but you can bet her commitment to strengthening families and educating children will never change.

Congratulations Penny! Thank you for all the work you have done and the difference you have made over the years to the children and families in your community.

---

Mountain View High School SRO keeps a close eye on social media to keep kids safe

KIVI interviewed Officer Gomez on his tips for school preparedness.



KIVI interviewed Officer Gomez

Published on Feb 15, 2018 by KIVI -

MERIDIAN, ID - The school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida has school resource officers in the Gem State and beyond questioning their preparedness. While Mountain View High School practices for the unthinkable, school resource officer David Gomez believes they can do better. He says communication is both the first step and the best defense. It is not just communication between parents and school leaders, but also between students.

"We try and act as a community here so that when there are some warning signs we do get ahead of it and check it out," said Officer Gomez. "And even if it turns out to be nothing, we're happy to check it out."

Officer Gomez uses social media as a way to stay connected and keep track of what is happening at Mountain View. He also uses it as a way to educate the public on internet safety. Officer Gomez believes social media grooms kids to do and say extreme things in order to stand out and get attention. While the vast majority of tips officer Gomez receives on social media turn out to be all talk and no action, he is more than happy to follow up and investigate each lead.

"It gives us the opportunity to contact the students. It also gives us the

opportunity to educate that student, that parent and all the surrounding students who have seen it. To say hey, you're not as anonymous as you think you are online," said Officer Gomez. "if we really want to hunt you down, we're going to hunt you down and say hello."

Officer Gomez says parents can be part of the solution. He encourages folks to keep an eye on their children's social media accounts and look out for changes in behavior. If you see something alarming, contact a counselor or police.

"Even if we are over-cautious, it's better than having a tragic event happen," said Officer Gomez.

Officer Gomez recommends parents wait to give kids social media access until they turn 13 and limit the number of friends they can have to 200.

---

## Idaho Supports High Visibility Enforcement (HVE)

The next scheduled HVE in Idaho surrounds the 4th of July weekend!



Did you know Idaho participates in High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) periods several times through the year? What's an HVE you ask? In Idaho this means there will be a saturation of law enforcement

patrols statewide aggressively looking for and addressing specific behaviors during a predetermined period of time. Idaho supports HVE for impaired driving, underage drinking, distracted driving, speeding, seatbelt use, and more. The next scheduled HVE in Idaho surrounds the 4th of July holiday and specifically drunk driving. If drivers perceive there to be a high probability that they will be detected and arrested, it is more likely that they will be deterred from engaging in drunk driving behavior. The reason HVE strategies work well is because they counter drunk drivers' beliefs that they can avoid detection. HVE is proven to work and the Idaho data agrees. We see the number of fatalities and serious injuries diminish when they are in play. For more information regarding HVE, contact the Idaho Office of Highway Safety Communication Manager at [ken.corder@itd.idaho.gov](mailto:ken.corder@itd.idaho.gov).

---

## Kay Bennett was awarded the "2018 Outstanding Prevention Advocate"

### Congratulations to Kay Bennett!

The Office of Drug Policy is happy to announce that Kay Bennett has been chosen as the recipient of the 2018 Outstanding Prevention Advocate Award.

Kay has been contributing to underage drinking prevention efforts for over 20 years in her role at the Idaho State Liquor Department by collaborating with coalitions on prevention strategies, providing trainings, and overseeing grants to law enforcement agencies and coalitions.

Kay works tirelessly to assist in prevention efforts across the state by volunteering countless hours side by side local coalitions and other organizations in the prevention field. She is always looking for new and innovative ways to assist in the prevention of underage drinking.

Kay has a quiet nature, but shows true passion for the cause by speaking out when needed. All coalitions need a champion in their corner, and Kay exemplifies the true meaning of prevention

champion.

---

## Introduction to Substance Abuse Prevention course

The course is online, free and self-paced.

**Dates:** Monday, June 11 - Friday, June 22, 2018

**Audience:** Strategic Prevention Framework sub-recipients, prevention providers, and prevention coalition partners

**Description:** This foundational course offers practitioners new to the field of substance abuse prevention, or working in related fields, an introduction to the history of prevention, key concepts and definitions, specific drug effects, and a glimpse into the effects of substance use and addiction on the brain. Regardless of the settings where you work, this information will help to prepare you to prevent substance abuse and promote positive mental health.

**What Does Participation Entail?** This course will take approximately five hours to complete, though timing will vary depending on your familiarity with the content, learning style, and competing demands on your time. Participants will be provided with access information following registration.

**Accreditation:** This course is endorsed by the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) for Prevention Specialist certification or re-certification. On passing the assessment at the end of this course (80% correct), participants will receive a Certificate of Completion which they can submit to their respective credentialing authorities.

**Registration:** Please register by June 8. [Click to register.](#)

---

The Idaho Office of Drug Policy leads Idaho's substance abuse policy and prevention efforts by developing and implementing strategic action plans and collaborative

partnerships to reduce drug use and related crime, thereby improving the health and safety of all Idahoans.



*We envision an Idaho free from the devastating social, health,  
and economic consequences of substance abuse.*



STAY IN TOUCH



304 N. 8th Street Boise, ID

Phone: (208) 854-3040

Email: [gayle.hines@odp.idaho.gov](mailto:gayle.hines@odp.idaho.gov)