

### **Do you have a drug house in your neighborhood?**

Drug houses don't just happen in other neighborhoods. There are drug houses in all types of neighborhoods. There are four things that make a drug house:

- Location
- Seller
- Product(drugs)
- Buyer

Most neighborhoods have very little control over the seller, buyer, or product. Drug dealers look for locations where neighbors do not communicate and isolate themselves. This makes it easy to intimidate those neighbors that do notice drug activity. Drug dealers like neighborhoods that say, "It can't happen here." Money is a key element for the drug dealer. If they establish a drug house in a neighborhood where kids and adults have money to buy drugs, business will thrive.

### **What are the warning signs of drug activity in the neighborhood?**

- Excessive foot traffic to and from a house.
- Loitering in or around a house.
- Frequent and unusual traffic patterns such as: Stop – Enter – Leave.
- Traffic frequently stops and a resident comes out and talks briefly with occupants in car.
- Threats of intimidation connected to a residence.
- Open exchange of drugs and money.
- Gang activity in the neighborhood.
- Graffiti on structures in the area.
- Sudden increase in criminal activity.

### **Prevention is the best way to stop drug houses!**

You can reduce the chance that a drug house moves into your neighborhood. Meet and get to know your neighbors and Police Officers. As problems develop in the neighborhood, work with law enforcement to resolve them quickly.

### **What should you do if there is a drug house in your neighborhood?**

- Build a cooperative effort with other neighbors.
- Use the "House Watch" sheet connected to this pamphlet, log all activity connected to the suspected drug house.
- Talk with your local Police Officers and give them the information you collect.
- Speak with property owners about problems that the tenants are causing for the neighbors. If you are having problems, the property owner is probably having problems too.
- Report all problems to the appropriate agency. Police, Fire, Health, and Public Works are just some of the agencies that you may call with problems.



## **Is that a Drug House?**

**If we are going to stop crime and drugs from taking over our neighborhoods we must all work together as a team. Without your help and assistance local law enforcement officers face many restrictions. Your involvement is the key to stopping crime.**



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