

## **RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE**

**WHEREAS**, enough prescription drugs of abuse were prescribed in 2010 to medicate every American adult around-the-clock for one month; and

**WHEREAS**, for every 1 overdose death from prescription drugs of abuse there are:...

- 10 treatment admissions for abuse
- 32 emergency department visits for misuse or abuse
- 130 people who abuse or are dependent
- 825 people who take prescription drugs of abuse for nonmedical use; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result, prescription drug abuse prevention is a top priority for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, prescription drug abuse is a significant public health concern in Idaho, with Idaho ranking 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the Nonmedical Use of Prescription Pain Relievers in the Past Year among Persons Aged 12 or Older in 2010-2011 (5.73%); and

**WHEREAS**, prescription drug abuse among Idahoans results in a broad range of negative outcomes, including but not limited to, lost productivity, increased injury, increased incidence of crime (e.g., robbery, theft, assault), and increased morbidity and mortality related to accidental and intentional overdose; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho Public Health Districts are responsible to promote and protect the health of Idaho citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho Public Health Districts provide services to individuals and families who are affected by prescription drug abuse;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Idaho Public Health Districts seek opportunities to collaborate with stakeholders such as the Office of Drug Policy, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and institutions of higher education, as well as other pertinent community organizations, to prevent the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs. An interdisciplinary, grassroots initiative which utilizes a three-prong approach incorporating Data Collection and Analysis, Provider Engagement, and Community Education and Policy Development to address the public health issue of prescription drug abuse is recommended and supported.