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CIVIC VOLUNTEERS, YOUTH SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE WAR ON DRUGS

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH CONGRESS

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CONTENTS

	Page
Hearing held on February 26, 1997	1
Statement of:	
Creighton, John W., Jr., president, Boy Scouts of America; Faye Dissinger, international president, General Federation of Women's Clubs; Frank A. Sarnecki, director general, Loyal Order of Moose; and Mike Marshall, president, U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce	4
Herndobler, Dick, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Gordon Thorson, national youth program director, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Howard Patterson, first vice-president, Lions Club International; William Pease, assistant director for children and teens program, American Legion Child Welfare Foundation; Don Baugher, president, accompanied by Larry Chisholm, national executive director, Masonic National Foundation for Children; and Dennis Windscheffel, drug prevention program consultant	41
Letters, statements, etc., submitted for the record by:	
Chisholm, Larry, national executive director, Masonic National Foundation for Children, prepared statement of	67
Dissinger, Faye, international president, General Federation of Women's Clubs, prepared statement of	8
Herndobler, Dick, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, prepared statement of	44
Marshall, Mike, president, U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, prepared statement of	28
Patterson, Howard, first vice-president, Lions Club International, prepared statement of	54
Pease, William, assistant director for children and teens program, American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, prepared statement of	59
Sarnecki, Frank A., director general, Loyal Order of Moose, prepared statement of	18
Thorson, Gordon, national youth program director, Veterans of Foreign Wars, prepared statement of	50
Windscheffel, Dennis, drug prevention program consultant, prepared statement of	77

CIVIC VOLUNTEERS, YOUTH SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE WAR ON DRUGS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1997

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:05 a.m., in room 2154, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. J. Dennis Hastert (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Hastert, Shadegg, Barrett, and Cummings.

Staff present: Robert Charles, staff director and chief counsel; Sean Littlefield, professional staff member; Chris Marston, legislative assistant; Ianthe Saylor, clerk; Elizabeth Mundinger, minority professional staff; and Jean Gosa, minority administrative clerk.

Mr. HASTERT. The Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice will come to order.

I take great pleasure in calling this hearing this morning. As chairman of an oversight subcommittee, it seems that I rarely have a chance to bring good news into the public eye. Today, we have a chance to do that.

While the problems of youth drug use are undoubtedly among the worst our Nation has faced, and faces, of all the problems we have, we have before us today representatives of volunteer organizations that are doing their level best to face that problem.

It is with profound gratitude that I welcome today's two panels of witnesses. The service they do for our Nation should not go unappreciated. Even before we begin, let me go on the record: Thank you for all you do.

Before we hear from our witnesses in more detail about their programs to fight drug abuse, let me set the stage by describing the problem we face with youth drug abuse. Illicit drug use among 8th and 10th graders has doubled in the last 5 to 6 years. Five percent of high school seniors smoke marijuana on a daily basis, and three out of four have now used marijuana. Our children are using LSD and other hallucinogens, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamines, at increasing levels. Parents have stopped talking to their children about the dangers of drug abuse. Only 3 of 10 children say their parents have talked to them about drugs at all.

Faced with a problem of this magnitude, I feel it is my duty as a Member of Congress to take every opportunity to encourage effec-

tive drug prevention programs like those represented by our witnesses here today.

You people are leaders. You deeply care about America's children. You have helped, and are helping, to turn back the tide of illegal drug use, and you have done so as volunteers without extensive Federal aid. It is on the efforts like yours that this Nation's future depends.

We know that one of the ways to prevent drug abuse is to give children a sense of self-value, self-worth. Society cannot do that in an institutional way. We cannot pass a law and make that happen. We cannot make a decree and make that happen. It is just hard work. It is in the trenches day after day. It is folks like you putting together programs to focus on kids, to give them the values and self-worth and the tools that they need to go on with life.

We cannot dictate that our schools do it or that our churches do it or our communities do it; we can only hope that folks like you do it, and you are. I want to welcome you.

Before proceeding with our first witness, I am pleased to turn to my colleague, the subcommittee's ranking minority member, my friend from Wisconsin, Tom Barrett, for any opening remarks he may have.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank you for holding this important hearing, and I want to thank our witnesses for sharing your time and your expertise with us today.

We all recognize the importance of involving the community, including civic and service groups, in the War on Drugs. Community groups can help fix this problem. The Federal Government already recognizes the importance of civic groups by providing Federal funding to community coalitions to demonstrate how they are fighting drug abuse.

However, unfortunately, 2 years ago, in the frenzy to cut social programs, drug abuse prevention programs, including demonstration projects, were cut 62 percent. Fortunately, the good news is that Members on both sides of the aisle realized that this was a mistake, and much of the prevention funding has been restored.

As a result, we now have 122 community coalition demonstration grants. Almost every State has one, including my State of Wisconsin, and Federal seed money has helped build a strong community network, which now includes over 4,000 community partnership programs. They are a strong weapon against drug abuse, and they deserve our support.

When I talk to people in my community about programs, community programs, and obviously the one that gets the most criticism are the basketball programs, I explain to people that I would much rather have kids shooting basketballs than shooting heroin. I would much rather have them shooting basketballs than shooting guns; and I think, to the extent that we can get young people involved in positive community outlets across the spectrum, I think we all gain from that.

It is my understanding that the majority is working with others to draft a bill that will provide community coalitions with a new and more permanent source of Federal funding, and I applaud that effort. I look forward to working with the chairman to make sure that this is a truly bipartisan effort, and I hope that we can find

a funding source for this new initiative without damaging existing effective drug programs which have been successful—for example, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Grant Program, which provided funding used to treat 340,000 people with serious substance abuse programs in 1995, or the National Institute of Drug Abuse, which provides 85 percent of drug abuse research.

I do not want to see these important initiatives hurt. I do not think we should be robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Again, I want to thank you for taking the time to testify. I think that in upcoming hearings we may want to hear from some other groups as well, groups like the Congress of National Black Churches; community groups like the Hispanic-Black Community Prevention Network, and others who are also deeply entrenched in the War on Drugs and have a great deal of insight to share with us.

But today, I am very excited to hear from the people who are before us and look forward to your testimony.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Souder, do you have an opening statement?

Mr. SOUDER. I have a statement, but I wanted to congratulate all of the people here today for your commitment at the grassroots level, because it is good to see that not everybody says that something has to start in Washington and then unless Washington moves, nothing is going to happen. Everybody back home, my family in Indiana and everybody around the country, realizes that we are drowning in drugs. Our kids are at risk, our families are at risk, and unless every parent gets involved, every school gets involved, all churches in the communities, we are never going to lick this problem.

Part of the reason I am here today is I want to hear what your groups are doing, and I want to congratulate you. It is really good to see. We need to do what we can out of Washington, but it is good to see the response coming from back home and not always coming from here in the Capitol Building.

Thank you very much.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Souder. I would like to welcome our first panel.

John W. Creighton is president of the Boy Scouts of America. Faye Dissinger is the president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Frank Sarnecki is the director general of the Loyal Order of the Moose, and I have to say, Mr. Sarnecki, I certainly welcome you; and Mooseheart is at the very heart of my district, and I have a great appreciation for it. Mike Marshall is the president of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

We welcome all of you, and we are pleased to have you here. If you would please stand and raise your hands, the committee's rules require me to swear you in.

[Witnesses sworn.]

Mr. HASTERT. Let the record show that the witnesses responded in the affirmative.

Thank you, and please proceed with your opening statements. We will start with you, Mr. Creighton.

STATEMENTS OF JOHN W. CREIGHTON, JR., PRESIDENT, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA; FAYE DISSINGER, INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT, GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS; FRANK A. SARNECKI, DIRECTOR GENERAL, LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE; AND MIKE MARSHALL, PRESIDENT, U.S. JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. CREIGHTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for inviting us here, and good morning. My name is Jack Creighton, and I am the president and chief executive officer of the Weyerhauser Co., but I am here this morning in my role as volunteer president of America's premiere youth-serving organization, the Boy Scouts of America.

It is a pleasure to be with you to discuss the programs of the scouting organization and share with you the efforts the Boys Scouts of America have undertaken to help combat drug use in our society.

Today's scouting offers five programs designed to serve the needs of boys and girls of various age groups. Please allow me a moment to describe briefly these five programs.

Tiger Cubs are boys in the first grade who learn new skills with an adult family member. They work together on projects and attend a monthly event with other Tiger Cubs.

Cub Scouts, for boys in the second through fifth grade, work with their families and meet for weekly, age-specific activities in small groups.

Boy Scouts comprise our oldest and most traditional program. Camping, outdoor activities, and a challenging advancement program help develop self-reliance and leadership skills for boys in the 6th through 12th grades.

Exploring is for young men and women in the ninth grade through age 20. Explorers learn to make career decisions through a hands-on sampling of vocational and hobby options.

Finally, Learning for Life is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Boy Scouts of America. Its programs are designed to support classroom teaching and help prepare students to handle the complexities of contemporary society.

These five programs impacted the lives of 4,400,000 of our Nation's youth last year. As an aside, our increase in membership last year was the largest in 26 years.

Scouting combines fun with educational activities and lifelong values to a broad range of young people. We help parents strengthen character, develop good citizenship, and enhance both mental and physical fitness in their sons and daughters.

The Boy Scouts of America's efforts to combat drug use began with a call from the Reagan White House in 1987. President Reagan personally challenged the scouting organization to join the fight against drug abuse. Following that meeting, the Boy Scouts of America aggressively addressed what it considered to be five unacceptables in our society: hunger, child abuse, illiteracy, youth unemployment, and drug abuse.

Later that same year, scouting introduced its new anti-drug program titled "Drugs: A Deadly Game." Included in this anti-drug package are a videotape; a poster showing how drugs, alcohol, and smoking damage the human body; and a teaching guide for use by parents and instructors. These materials are also provided in Span-

ish and contain minimum scouting identification so that civic, educational, and religious groups will utilize the materials as well.

The third edition of "Drugs: A Deadly Game," launched in 1994, speaks to today's issues, such as the escalating crack epidemic, increased use of inhalants, and the popularization of steroids. More than 16 million copies of the "Drugs: A Deadly Game" booklet have been distributed since 1987, making it one of the largest national anti-drug efforts ever undertaken.

In 1989, scouting produced a publication titled "How To Protect Your Child from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parent's Guide," plus a videotape and instructor's guide for training adult volunteer leaders. So that every parent could easily obtain a copy of the parent's guide, it was eventually inserted into the inside cover of every handbook used by young people in scouting. Today, these important messages about drug abuse are included as a regular part of our handbooks for youth members.

In the fall of 1994, we were asked to participate with the Office of National Drug Control Policy in the development of a National Drug Control Strategy. Working with this group, we continue to be advocating focusing on a comprehensive education and prevention program aimed at youth which warns about the dangers of drug abuse.

At our 1996 National Annual Meeting, we introduced a new Crime Prevention Program. We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with the National Crime Prevention Council, the International Association of Police Chiefs, and the National Sheriff's Association in developing this new initiative. We also enjoyed the support of U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno as we launched our program this past October during National Crime Prevention Month.

Designed for use by Scouts and non-Scouts alike, our Crime Prevention Program continues to promote the "Drugs: A Deadly Game" material.

In May 1995, Lou Harris and Associates released a study titled "The Values of Men and Boys in America." This study revealed many interesting findings related to values. Among other things, it showed that a scouting experience has a positive impact on values. It also revealed that 51 percent of the men in America were once Scouts—51 percent.

I mention this as a way to impress upon you that the Boy Scouts of America can, and does, make an impact on youth and adult members that we serve today. The total number of youth and adult members of the Boy Scouts is 5.6 million.

Think for a moment about what goes through your mind when someone you meet says that you were a scout, they were a scout. I bet you would take note, I bet you would immediately know something about this person's values, I bet you know about his drive to succeed, and I bet you know something about his character.

You know all of this without him saying anything else about himself, except that he was a Scout. Everything I have shared with you today requires no Government funding. The Boy Scouts of America is proud to pledge the resources required to support its tradition of teaching values to young people and to continue our ef-

forts to combat the use of drugs by American youth. Thank you very much.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Creighton. Now, I welcome Ms. Dissinger.

Ms. DISSINGER. Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), I want to thank you and the members of the Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice for holding this hearing and allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony describing GFWC's efforts to help American youth stay drug free.

As international president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, one of the world's largest and oldest service organizations, I speak for more than 260,000 members throughout the United States who are generalists in many areas and expert at identifying issues important to families and at working to further volunteer service.

For more than 100 years, GFWC has built an outstanding record of accomplishments. Our members work to address the diverse needs of their communities by networking with specialized associations, as well as with local public agencies and private groups, in order to maximize the effectiveness of our community service work. During the previous 2-year period, 1994 to 1996, our 6,500 clubs reported more than 26 million volunteer hours and $55 million donated to over 400,000 projects nationwide.

GFWC began to concentrate on drug abuse programs in the mid-1960's, with the first GFWC resolution on substance abuse adopted in 1968. The Federation launched its alcohol and drug abuse education and awareness program for women and children in 1974. Ever since then, clubs have had programs to support our two GFWC resolutions, both updated in 1995, that recommend educating their communities, promoting activism in the prevention of substance abuse among the Nation's youth and supporting efforts of Federal, State, and local governments.

The stated purpose of GFWC's program is to educate members about substance abuse issues and prevention methods for young adults and to encourage members to take an active role in prevention efforts in their communities. GFWC's program is supported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, whose agents work closely with the clubs to educate the community through the Drug Demand Reduction Program.

In addition, GFWC members work frequently with their successful programs with such organizations as Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD), the Parent-Teachers Association (PTA), the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), as well as local schools and shelters and both Girl and Boy Scouts.

During 1996, GFWC clubs, working in the area of substance abuse prevention, reported 200,000 volunteer hours and $890,000 donated to over 2 million recipients. While the Federation is proud of its cooperative efforts with local law enforcement agencies, schools, and other organizations, we believe that Federal, State, and local governments also must work to make current and new programs effective in helping to eradicate the drug problem.

I would like to share with members of the subcommittee some descriptions of GFWC club programs that illustrate our belief that a consistent, educational, anti-drug message can and does impact the Nation's youth drug problem. For example, clubs nationwide support Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E. One Ohio club raised money for a female police officer, who as a single mother, would otherwise have not been able to become a D.A.R.E. officer. In the State of Georgia, a GFWC club, working with a Sertoma Club, brought 1,500 fourth-grade students to a drug-free pep rally. Another club performed a puppet show about substance abuse at a shelter for abused women and children. California clubs gave $600 to support a program for recovering abusers that provides work and job training. A program known as Friday Night Live, organized by club members and parents, working with police and students, plans alternative parties for young people.

Clubwomen in over 30 States donated money and participated in Red Ribbon Week, a national family partnership program, by distributing ribbons signifying "say no" to drugs.

It is my sincere hope that the information that I have provided will assist members of the subcommittee as they work to formulate a response to America's drug problem.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Dissinger follows:]

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Hearing Statement
by

Faye Z. Dissinger
International President
General Federation of Women's Clubs

on

Volunteer Efforts to Combat Youth Drug Use

before the

House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight
Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs
and Criminal Justice

February 25, 1997

On behalf of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), I want to thank Chairman Hastert and members of the Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs and Criminal Justice for holding this hearing and allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony describing GFWC's efforts to help America's youth stay drug free.

As International President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, one of the world's largest and oldest women's volunteer service organizations, I speak for more than 260,000 members throughout the United States who are generalists in many areas and expert at identifying issues important to families and at working to further volunteer service.

For more than 100 years, GFWC has built an outstanding record of accomplishment. Our members work to address the diverse needs of their communities by networking with specialized associations as well as with local public agencies and private groups in order to maximize the effectiveness of our community service work. During the previous two-year period, 1994-96, our 6,500 clubs reported more than 26 million volunteer hours and 55 million dollars donated to over 400,000 projects nationwide.

GFWC began to concentrate on drug abuse in the mid 1960s, with programs that responded directly to FBI statistics at that time, when three percent of young people, ages 15 - 21, were drug addicts. The first GFWC resolution on substance abuse was adopted in 1968. The Federation launched its alcohol and drug abuse education and awareness program for women and children in 1974. Ever since then, clubs have had programs in support of two GFWC resolutions, both updated in 1995, that recommend educating their communities, promoting activism in the prevention of substance abuse among the nation's youth and supporting efforts of federal, state and local governments. (See Appendix I.)

The stated purpose of GFWC's program is to educate members about substance abuse issues and prevention methods for young adults and to encourage members to take an active role in prevention efforts in their communities. GFWC's program is supported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation whose agents work closely with clubs to educate the community through the Drug Demand Reduction Program.

In addition to our partnership with the FBI, GFWC member clubs work frequently on their successful programs with such organizations as Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD), the Parent Teachers Association

(PTA), Drug Awareness Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) as well as local schools and shelters and both Girl and Boy Scouts. During 1996, GFWC clubs working in the area of substance abuse prevention reported 200,000 volunteer hours and 890,000 dollars donated to over two million recipients.

GFWC's two-part substance abuse prevention program covers Education/Awareness and Community Outreach. While the Federation is proud of its cooperative effort with local law enforcement agencies, schools and other organizations, we believe that federal, state and local governments also must work to make current and new programs effective in helping to eradicate the drug problem.

Under part one of the GFWC program, we recommend introducing club and community members to the issues surrounding substance abuse and researching the causes, varieties and symptoms of abuse. In addition, we suggest that clubs examine the effect of substance abuse on the community to promote discussion of such issues as crime rate, road safety and health. Finally, we stress the importance of becoming familiar with different types of prevention efforts with the organizations and resources I mentioned previously like the PTA, MADD and SADD.

Part two of GFWC's substance abuse prevention program, community outreach, stresses the importance of education in the prevention of drug abuse and points to the need for active citizen participation in finding solutions. Again, we recommend forming or joining coalitions with other established groups (see Appendix II).

For my remaining time, I would like to share with members of the subcommittee some descriptions of GFWC clubs' substance abuse prevention programs. These programs illustrate our belief that a consistent educational anti- drug message can and does impact on the nation's youth drug problem. A more detailed list of club programs is attached (see Appendix III).

Clubs nationwide supported D.A.R.E. programs as a means to keep children drug free. For example, in Ohio club projects include raising money to bring D.A.R.E. officers to local schools and writing letters to city officials in support of the in-school program. In one Ohio community, a club raised money to provide child care during the multi-day, D.A.R.E. training for a female police officer who was a single mother and would otherwise not have been able to become a D.A.R.E. officer.

In the state of Georgia, for example, a GFWC club working with a Sertoma Club, another service organization brought 1,500 fourth grade students to a drug free pep rally. The students were given "drugs don't work" T-shirts and were entertained by cartoon characters and a law enforcement dog in addition to hearing an inspirational talk delivered by an Atlanta Falcon football player. Another club performed a puppet show about substance abuse at a shelter for abused women and children. One club distributed pencils inscribed with a message about drug awareness to middle and high school children. Another club distributed an FBI fact sheet, which outlines the characteristics of high risk youth and provides recommendations for early intervention. In another case, a VISTA Director of Adolescent Drug Treatment spoke to club members about increased drug use and the importance of societal role models.

Across the country, clubs in California gave $600 to support a program for recovering abusers that provides work and job training and helps young people return to school. A program known as Friday Night Live, organized by club members and parents working with police and students, plans alternative parties for young people. Another club donated money to a teen center for a safe New Year's Eve party. Many GFWC Junior Clubs in the state work with national organizations to inform and instruct students on how to cope in a compromising situation and how to "say no" to drugs.

Clubwomen in over 30 states donated money and participated in Red Ribbon Week, a National Family Partnership program, by distributing ribbons, signifying "say no" to drugs, and a variety of educational materials throughout their communities. In Florida, alone, clubwomen distributed over 14,000 red ribbons.

It is my sincere hope that the information I have provided will assist members of the subcommittee as they work to formulate a response to America's drug problem.

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Attached:
Appendix I - GFWC Resolutiosn
Appendix II - GFWC Community Partners
Appendix III - GFWC Club Activity/Programs

Appendix I

General Federation of Women's Clubs
Substance Abuse Resolutions

SUBSTANCE ABUSE (Convention 1983; Amended and Reaffirmed 1987; Reviewed 1991; Amended 1995)

WHEREAS, The incidence of substance abuse continues to increase at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS, The abuse of substances including alcohol, illegal and prescription drugs continues to be a serious menace to the public health and safety of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Substance abuse produces harmful effects to the physical, mental and emotional health of abusers, often contributing to criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, Effective citizen responsibility in preventing substance abuse is largely dependent upon a sound program of education on the danger of substance abuse; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs calls upon its member clubs to continue cooperating with other organizations and associations undertaking educational and consumer awareness programs; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports the enactment of laws, where necessary, and strict enforcement of penalties for the production, marketing and possession of illegal substances.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE REHABILITATION (Convention 1991; Amended 1995)

WHEREAS, Substance abusers need therapeutic programs and services to enable them to return to healthy and productive lives; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports the continued development of programs and increased availability of services to substance abusers through private and public means, recognizing that these programs should be viewed as ongoing treatments for improving the lives of such abusers; and further

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs work for continued appropriations at federal, state and local levels.

Appendix II

General Federation of Women's Clubs
Substance Abuse Program

GFWC Clubs form partnerships with the following community organizations:

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- American Red Cross
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Champions Against Drugs
- Drug Awareness Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)
- Elks Auxiliary
- The National Exchange Club
- Federal Correctional Institute
- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
- Girls and Boys Clubs
- Just Say NO Foundation
- Kiwanis International
- Lions International
- March of Dimes (MOD)
- Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
- National Family Partnership (NFP)
- National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NCADI)
- Optimist International
- Ounce of Prevention
- Parent Teachers Association (PTA)
- Rotary International
- Student Councils
- Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD)
- Tough Love
- The United Way
- Very Special Arts
- Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)

Appendix III

General Federation of Women's Clubs
Substance Abuse Program

Examples of Nationwide Club Activities:

- Distribute buttons, stickers, pencils, bookmarks, T-shirts and posters with substance-free messages throughout their communities.
- Sponsor alcohol and drug free graduation parties.
- Work with centers for addicted mothers with young children.
- Collect food, clothing, toys, blankets, games, computers and money for substance abuse prevention centers.
- Order and distribute educational materials from the FBI, National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI), National Family Partnership, DARE, MADD and SADD.
- Study and advocate for local and national substance abuse legislation.
- Work with city halls to proclaim substance abuse prevention days, weeks and months.
- Sponsor youth art and literature contests with a substance abuse prevention theme.
- Hold community luncheons/dinners to honor local substance abuse prevention advocates.
- Promote substance abuse prevention at local health fairs.
- Study the relationship between drugs and gang-related activities in order to present programs to local schools, parent-teacher groups, churches, neighborhoods and communities-at-large.
- Sponsor "neighborhood revitalization" projects.
- Develop "parent-to-parent" network to help parents become more in touch their children's activities.
- Hold drug awareness seminars for local middle and high schools.
- Display educational materials in local libraries and community centers.
- Sponsor "Safety Net for Kids," a safe place for children to go while their parents are receiving drug abuse treatment.
- Write drug awareness brochures to distribute throughout communities.
- Invite substance abuse prevention professionals to speak at club/community meetings.
- Promote drug free pregnancy by teaching classes at public high schools.
- Organize "community for youth" support groups.
- Support programs that help recovering addicts find jobs and/or continue schooling.
- Design volunteer driver programs where students respond to calls from other students needing a designated driver.
- Help fund rehabilitations programs.
- Support community half-way houses.
- Loan club houses for local drug awareness organization meetings.
- Attend educational forums on substance addiction.
- Organize "peer assistance" programs in local schools.
- Write and perform educational drug awareness plays, skits and puppet shows.
- Promote drug abuse toll free numbers.
- Educate clubwomen on the types and dangers of current street drugs.
- Organize and participate in local runs/walks to raise drug awareness program funds.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Ms. Dissinger. Now, I'd like to have the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Sarnecki, of the Moose.

Mr. SARNECKI. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. On behalf of Moose International, I thank you for the opportunity to present testimony here this morning regarding drug abuse and what we are attempting to do as a preventive measure.

Moose International is a nonprofit, fraternal organization founded in 1888 for the purpose of inspiring lofty sentiments relative to humanity's welfare. Currently, there are over 2,100 lodges representing nearly 1,736,000 men and women of the Loyal Order of Moose pursuing the dream and doing a great job of it. The fraternity's first philanthropic endeavor consisted of building a child care facility 35 miles west of Chicago called Mooseheart. There we are caring for children who need the benefit of a residential and educational facility such as Mooseheart.

Our second philanthropic endeavor is located outside of Jacksonville, FL in the Orange Park community called Moosehaven. This is a retirement community for our senior members and their wives. Those who reside at Moosehaven are there because of a need: a helping hand in the later years of their life.

Believing that only the home, the church, and the school have the eminent right to reside in communities, this fraternity put together their third philanthropic endeavor, called community service. The community service program of the Moose centers around helping not only the youth, but also senior citizens.

In addition to volunteering time and effort at various Veterans Administration Medical Centers, volunteer hours are also expended locally through walk-a-thons, Adopt a Highway, Meals on Wheels, telethons, local blood drives, food collections, Toys for Tots, and providing holiday meals for those less fortunate individuals.

The flagship of the Moose International Community Service Program is the Moose Youth Awareness Program, a program that was developed in 1986 from an invitation extended to the fraternity to visit with President Ronald Reagan and First Lady Nancy in an effort to encourage organizations to adopt the "Just Say No to Drugs" program. That program evolved through the years and is now known as Moose International Youth Awareness Program.

Can teenagers persuade younger children to make the right choices in life? "Yes," say the teens and adults who work together in our Youth Awareness Program. For 10 years, we have organized high-school-age leaders into a highly effective speakers bureau to persuade preschool- and elementary-age youngsters against drug use. We have now expanded our program to bring awareness to 4- to 9-year-olds on other subjects, such as child abuse, gangs, and other elements that have an adverse effect on the youth of today.

More than 1,200 eager teens gather at Moose Association Student Congresses around the United States and Canada annually. They come to exchange good ideas, to help themselves and others to deal with the adverse elements in their own communities. Many of the students revealed experiences in their own lives which made them want to prevent further tragedies. Many are already leaders in their schools or community youth awareness programs, and some became leaders at the Youth Congresses.

During the course of the Association Student Congress, the students focus on creating Moose KidsTalk, which are short presentations that they will personally give to groups of 4- to 9-year-olds in their home towns. Adult experts were brought in to inspire where needed, but best of all, the students initiated their own ideas for Moose KidsTalk. They thought up ways to empower children to choose health and resist danger and how to put them into practice.

Several of our students used costumes to convey their messages to 4- to 9-year-old age groups and encouraged them to make healthy choices. Others used props or pictures of sports heroes to get the attention of their elementary-age children. Many presented skits, some teaming up with young audience members to play parts.

Most bring activity aids, such as coloring books, flash cards, or, yes, even a mouse trap. Their sponsoring Moose lodges and Women of the Moose chapters are additionally challenged to help make arrangements for their KidsTalk. The 1996 KidsTalk audience numbered more than 32,000 youngsters. Following the Association Student Congresses, they are challenged to become speakers' bureaus, finding opportunities to speak with groups of children, such as Cub Scouts, Brownies, Bluebirds, elementary school or Sunday school classes, to name just a few.

Each student is asked to complete a minimum of three KidsTalks in their own home town or community. About 65 of the teens attending the Association Student Congresses are then selected by their peers to attend, along with a guest team from Great Britain, the International Student Congress.

The 1997 International Student Congress will be held at the Washington Dulles Hyatt Hotel and includes a full day of touring Washington, DC, on Friday, May 2, 1997. Those 65 students will start with breakfast at the U.S. Capitol and complete the day by boarding the Spirit of Washington cruise ship that evening for a dinner cruise on the Potomac. The following 2 days are spent exchanging various methods of presentations to our target 4- to 9-year-old-age-group youngsters.

At the end of the second day, those students vote to determine the best of the best. Two students are awarded $1,000 scholarships, and the top student is awarded a $5,000 scholarship and a trip to the international convention, which will be held in Orlando this year.

A bright and continuing future is planned for the Youth Awareness Program by making KidsTalk presentations to small groups of youngsters. Soon this will inspire children in their communities to join in making healthy choices and avoid adverse elements. In fact, the voices of those sophomores, juniors, and seniors who attended the Association International Student Congress during the last 7 years have reached an audience of over 200,000 4- to 9-year-olds.

The men and women of the Loyal Order of Moose are dedicated to caring for youth of our country and in that regard, we will sponsor a youth forum at the Second World Congress on Family Law and Rights of Children and Youth scheduled in San Francisco in June of this year. The Congress is reporting on the grave plight of children locally, nationally, and internationally. The Loyal Order of Moose is proud to be a sponsor of this effort.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, true to form, in her never-ending quest to provide for the well-being of children, is honorary chair of the event. We are pleased to be the only fraternal group participating in the Congress.

The future of our country rests with the little ones of today. Without a doubt, members of the Loyal Order of Moose and co-workers of the Women of the Moose will continue to provide assistance in the goal of helping to make communities a better place for our youth to grow.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Sarnecki follows:]

WASHINGTON DC
U.S. HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE

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The fraternity's first philanthropic endeavor consisted of building a child care facility 35 miles southwest of Chicago called Mooseheart. There we are caring for, sheltering and educating children who need the benefit of a facility such as Mooseheart. Our second philanthropic endeavor is located outside of Jacksonville, Florida in the Orange Park community called Moosehaven. This is a retirement community for our senior Moose members and their wives. Those who reside at Moosehaven, Florida are there because of the need in their later years.

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That program evolved through the years and is now known as the Moose International Youth Awareness Program. Can teenagers persuade younger children to make the right choices in life? "Yes"! say the teens and adults who work together in our youth awareness program. For ten years we have organized high school age leaders into a highly effective speakers bureau to persuade pre-school and elementary age youngsters against drug use. We have now expanded our program to bring awareness to 4 to 9 year olds on other subjects such as child abuse, gangs and other elements that have an adverse effect on the youth of today. More than 1,200 eager teens gather at Moose Association Student Congresses around the U.S. and Canada annually. They come to exchange good ideas, to help themselves and others, to deal with the adverse elements in their own communities. Many of the students revealed experiences in their own lives which made them want to help to prevent further tragedies. Many are already leaders in schools or community youth awareness programs and some became leaders at the youth congress.

During the course of the Association Student Congress, the students focus on creating Moose KidsTalk which are short presentations that they will personally give to groups of 4 to 9 year olds in their own hometowns. Adult experts were brought in to inspire where needed, but best of all, the students initiated their own ideas for Moose KidsTalk. They thought up ways to empower children to choose health and resist danger, and how to put them into practice. Several of the students used costumes to convey their messages to 4 to 9 year old age groups and encourage them to make healthy choices. Others used props or pictures of sports heroes to get the attention of their elementary age children. Many presented skits, some teaming up with the young audience members to play the parts. Most bring activities aids, such as coloring books, flash cards or, yes, even a mousetrap. Their sponsoring Moose Lodges and Women of the Moose Chapters are additionally challenged to help them make arrangements for their KidsTalks. The 1996 KidsTalk audiences numbered more than 32,000 youngsters.

Following the Association Student Congresses, they are challenged to become a speakers bureau, finding opportunities to speak with groups of children, such as Cub Scouts, Brownies, Bluebirds, elementary school or Sunday school classes, to name a few. Each student is asked to complete a minimum of three KidsTalk in their own hometown or community. About 65 of the teens attending the Association Student Congresses are then selected by their peers to attend, along with a guest teen from Great Britain, the International Student Congress. The 1997 International Student Congress will be held at the Washington Dulles Hyatt Hotel and includes a full day of touring Washington, DC, on Friday, May 2, 1997. Those 65 students will start with breakfast at the U.S. Capitol and complete the day by boarding the Spirit of Washington Cruise Ship that evening for a dinner cruise on the Potomac. The following two days are spent exchanging their various methods and presentations to our targeted 4 to 9 year old age group. At the end of the second day those students vote to determine the best of the best. Two students are each awarded a $1,000.00 scholarship, and the top student is awarded a $5,000.00 scholarship and a trip to our International Convention, which will be in Orlando, Florida this year.

A bright and continuing future is planned for the Youth Awareness Program by making KidsTalk presentations to small groups of youngsters in the 4 to 9 age range. The students will inspire children in their communities to join them in making healthy choices and avoid adverse elements. In fact, the voices of those sophomores, juniors and seniors who attended the Association International Student Congress during the last seven years, have reached an audience of over 200,000 4 to 9 year olds.

The men and women of the Loyal Order of Moose are dedicated to caring for the youth of our country and in that regard, we will sponsor a youth forum at the Second World Congress on Family Law and the Rights of Children and Youth, scheduled in San Francisco in June of this year. This Congress is responding to the grave plight of children locally, nationally and internationally. The Loyal Order of Moose is proud to be a sponsor of this effort. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, true to form in her never-ending quest to provide for the well-being of children, is Honorary Chair of the event. We are pleased to be the only fraternal group participating in the Congress.

The future of our country rests with the little ones of today. Without a doubt, members of the Loyal Order of Moose, and the Co-workers of the Women of the Moose, will continue to provide assistance in the goal of helping to make communities a better place for our youth to grow.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Sarnecki. Mr. Marshall.

Mr. MARSHALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do appreciate the privilege to testify before this committee.

I am the 77th president of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, also known as the Jaycees. We are the largest young person's leadership training organization in America. Our members are men and women, ages 21 to 39, who believe in our creed that states: "Service to humanity is the best work of life." We are the boomers and X'ers that do not fit the media stereotypes of the "me generation" or of the "disenfranchised slacker" mold.

Jaycees are people who give generously of their scarce free time to help improve their communities and the lives of the people within them. Because of the 29- to 39-year-old age requirements, our members are in their peak child-rearing years.

The Jaycees are keenly aware and anxious about statistical data that shows drug use among children and teenagers is rising. The Jaycees are positive solution seekers who believe it is far better to organize than to agonize. Over the years, we have addressed the problem of youth alcohol and substance abuse.

Just a partial history of anti-drug and alcohol abuse youth programs include: 1972 to 1977, Operation Threshold, a program dedicated to reducing alcohol abuse and promoting alcoholism treatment, reached 23 million Americans. The program made use of a Federal grant and was highly successful in raising awareness about a problem that was not as openly addressed at that time.

In 1977, the Boston Conference on Teenage Alcoholism and the Roxbury-Dorchester Jaycees of Massachusetts cosponsored the Nation's first conference on teenage alcoholism. The meeting was held in Boston. They provided 200 youths a full day of workshops, films, and group discussions on the dangers of alcohol use.

In 1984, combatting drug and alcohol abuse was adopted as a 3-year priority. The U.S. Jaycees encouraged the chapters to run projects to curb drug and alcohol abuse. Chapters were encouraged to address this issue on a local basis. Hundreds and hundreds of chapters took up the fight.

In 1986, the "Just Say No" program, the program started by President Reagan and First Lady Nancy, was endorsed by our national, State, and chapter organizations. Local chapters, like the Princeton Jaycees, purchased and donated materials for the local area schools. This effort went on around the Nation.

In 1990, "Three Ways To Keep Your Kids off Drugs." This video offers parents a three-step, common-sense approach to effective parenting. Chapters purchased the tape and provided them to video stores, schools, and churches. The tape was used by thousands of parents, law enforcement officers, teachers, and at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA.

In 1991, Jaycee chapters around the country embraced Project D.A.R.E. Support for the program varies from community to community. Chapters provide manpower, money, and organize local events.

On a local chapter level, in 1986, the Sikeston, MO, Jaycees purchased, painted, and donated the local D.A.R.E. officers' vehicle. The same year, they purchased communications equipment for the local Sikeston Police Department. The equipment is used to raid

the homes and businesses of suspected drug dealers without the risk of detection.

In 1997, the Virginia Beach, VA community held Crime Awareness Day. The Jaycees are working with the State's attorney general and other community service organizations to put on a daylong event that is aimed at discouraging drug use and teen violence.

In 1997, there was the "Want to Get Wasted or Want to Get Home" program. This program was developed by the Texas Department of Public Safety and is being conducted by the Paris, TX, Jaycees. The program is aimed at reducing the incidence of drinking and driving among high school juniors and seniors. The Paris chapter was alarmed at statistics that showed that 183 Texans between the ages of 15 and 20 were killed in alcohol-related motor-vehicle deaths. July of that year was the worst, with a total of 74 young people killed on the roadways of Texas.

The program includes an 8-minute video of young people talking about how alcohol has messed up their lives. It includes pages of information entitled personal, social, legal, and financial consequences of drinking and driving. The chapter supplemented these packets with presentations and by purchasing nearly 4,000 shirts to be given away to the students. The materials are provided by the Texas Department of Public Safety, and the Jaycees raised money and secured a $10,000 grant from Allstate Insurance to pay for the shirts.

In 1977, local chapter projects included hosting alcohol-free, post-prom activities; drug-free teen dances; paying for speakers and programs to promote a drug-free message in schools; buying and providing anti-drug, promotional material for schools. We also support numerous activities that provide alternative sources of fun, self-esteem, and positive peer and mentor relationships, such as youth soccer, basketball, baseball, and football. We support local youth teen centers and the Boys' and Girls' Clubs.

It has been said that all politics are local. The Jaycees believe that all problems are local and that, too, all solutions are local. As an organization that has 132,000 members spread throughout every State in the Nation, we are uniquely positioned to provide local solutions to the national problem of youth and alcohol substance abuse.

Throughout our 77-year history, we have tackled major issues on a community-by-community basis. During our 77-year history, we built airports across America to facilitate the growth of airmail service. We purchased street lights for our cities and towns to improve vehicle safety. When Jerry Lewis began his telethon against muscular dystrophy, we raised $20 million by running local, community-based projects.

Currently, we are holding town hall meetings on the issue of Social Security reform. We are building health care facilities across the country for children with HIV and AIDS, and for 3 years we have been encouraging retailers to obey the law and deny minors access to tobacco products. We are not afraid to tackle current issues and problems.

The Jaycee officers and members get discouraged when the Federal Government spends money to develop a national manpower

network and all the services necessary to support that type of national network, when you have existing national organizations that for a fraction of the money could deliver the programs and services that are deemed necessary. For decades, organizations like the Optimists, the Kiwanis, the Rotary, the Lions, the Jaycees, and others were the backbone of volunteerism in this country.

During the last 15 years, these organizations have been in the process of redesigning their structures to accommodate the changing life styles of today's volunteers. The Federal Government benefited when these organizations were at their peak of activity. They provided programs and services at little or no cost to the taxpayer. During this period of civic organizational rebirth, I would encourage the Federal Government to look for opportunities to work with these organizations.

On behalf of the 132,000 Jaycee members and the 4 million members that have passed through our organization, I would like to thank this committee and the chairman for the invitation to speak on this topic. Bill Clinton said in his inaugural address, "When Americans work together in their homes, their churches, their civic groups, and their work places, they can meet any challenge."

As a representative of the Jaycees and other service clubs, please call upon us for assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Marshall follows:]

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February 26, 1997

WRITTEN STATEMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs,
and Criminal Justice
J. Dennis Hastert, Chairman

"Civic Volunteers, Youth Service Organizations,
and the War on Drugs."

BY

Mike Marshall, 77th President

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It is an honor to address this subcommittee. My name is Mike Marshall and I am the 77th President of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, also known as the Jaycees. We are the largest, young persons organization in America. Our members are men and women ages 21 to 39 who believe in our creed that states, "Service to Humanity is the Best Work of Life." We are "Boomers and Xers that do not fit the media stereotypes of the "me generation" or the "disenfranchised slacker" mold. Jaycees are people who give generously of their scarce, free time, to help improve their communities and the lives of people within them.

Because of the 21 to 39 year old age requirement our members are in their peak child rearing years. Jaycees are keenly aware and anxious about statistical data that shows drug use among children and teenagers is rising. Jaycees are positive, solution seekers, who believe it is far better to organize then to agonize. Over the years we have addressed the problem of youth alcohol and substance abuse.

A partial history of Jaycee anti drug and alcohol abuse youth programs include:

1972 to 1977 Operation Threshold - a program dedicated to reducing alcohol abuse and promoting alcoholism treatment, reached 23 million Americans. This program made use of a federal grant and was highly successful at raising awareness about a problem that was not as openly addressed at that time.

1977 Boston Conference on Teenage Alcoholism - the Roxbury-Dorchester Jaycees of Massachusetts co-sponsored the nations first conference on teenage alcoholism. The meeting was held in Boston, Massachusetts.. They provided 200 youths a full day of workshops, films and group discussions on the dangers of alcohol use.

1984 Combating Drug and Alcohol Abuse - was adopted as a three year priority. The U.S. Jaycees encouraged the chapters to run projects to curb drug and alcohol abuse. Chapters were encouraged to address this issue on a local basis. Hundreds of chapters took up the fight.

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1986 "Just Say No" program - the program started by President Reagan and First Lady Nancy Reagan was endorsed and promoted by our national, state and chapter organizations. Local chapters like the Princeton, Indiana Jaycees purchased and donated "Just Say No" book covers and donated them to the area schools.

1990 "3 Ways to Keep Your Kids Off Drugs" video - this 46 minute video offers parents a three step, common sense approach to effective parenting. Chapters purchased the tape and provided them to video stores, schools and churches. The tape was used by thousands of parents, law enforcement officers, teachers and at the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico, VA.

1991 D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) - Jaycee chapters around the country embraced the Project D.A.R.E. Support for the programs varies from community to community. Other chapters provide manpower, money and organize local events.

1996 The Sikeston, Missouri Jaycees - purchased, painted and donated the local D.A.R.E. officers vehicle. The same year they purchased communications equipment for the local Sikeston Police department. The equipment is used to raid the homes and business of supected drug dealers without the risk of detection.

1997 The Virginia Beach, Virginia Community Crime Awareness Day - Jaycees are working with the state's attorney general and other community service organizations, to put on a day long, event that is aimed at discouraging drug use and teen violence.

1997 "Wanna Get Wasted or Wanna get home" program - this program was developed by the Texas Department of Public Safety and is being conducted by the Paris, Texas Jaycees. The program is aimed reducing the incidence of drinking and driving among high school juniors and seniors. The Paris chapter was alarmed at that statistics showed that 183 Texans between the ages of 15 and 20 were killed in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents. July of that year was the worst, with a total 74 young people killed on the roadways of Texas. The program includes an 8 minute video of young people talking

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about how alcohol messed up their lives. It includes pages of information entitled: personal, social, legal and financial, consequences. The chapter supplemented these packets with presentations and by purchasing nearly 4,000 shirts to be given away to students. The materials are provided by the Texas Department of Public Safety. The Jaycees raised money and secured a $10,000 dollar grant to pay for the shirts.

1997 Local chapter projects - include hosting alcohol free post prom activities, drug free teen dances, paying for speakers and programs that promote a drug free message in schools, buying and providing anti drug, promotional materials for schools. We also support numerous activities that provide alternate sources of fun, self esteem and positive peer and mentor relationships such as youth soccer, basketball, baseball and football. We support local youth teen centers and boys and girls clubs.

It has been said that, "All politics are local." Jaycees believe that all problems are local and that all solutions are local. As an organization that has 132,000 members spread throughout every state in the nation, we are uniquely positioned to provide local solutions to the national problem of youth alcohol and substance abuse. Throughout our 77 year history we have tackled major issues on a community by community basis.

During our 77 year history we built airports all across America to facilitate the growth of airmail service. We purchased street lights for our cities and towns to improve vehicle safety. When Jerry Lewis began the telethon against Muscular Dystrophy we raised 20 million dollars, by running local, community based projects. Currently we are holding town hall meetings to educate people about the issue of Social Security reform. Jaycees are building a series of care facilities for children with HIV and AIDS. For three years we have been encouraging retailers to obey the law and deny minors access to tobacco products. We are not afraid to tackle current issues and problems.

Jaycee officers and members get discouraged when the federal government spends money to develop a national manpower network and all the services necessary to support that type of national network when you have existing national organizations, that for a

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fraction of the money could deliver the programs and services that are deemed necessary. For decades organizations like the Optimist, Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions and Jaycees were the backbone of volunteerism in this country. During the last 15 years these organizations have been in a process of redesigning their structures to accommodate the changing lifestyles of today's volunteers. The federal government benefited when these organizations were at their peak of activity. They provided programs and services at little or no cost to the taxpayer. During this period of civic organizational rebirth I would encourage the federal government to look for opportunities to work with these organizations.

I would encourage the this House of Representatives to support the Jaycees and other service clubs and to call upon them for assistance. If their is a national problem the American people and this body would like to see addressed then ask the civic volunteers for their input and to help devise solutions. President Bill Clinton, said it best, "When Americans work together in their homes, their churches, their civic groups, their workplaces they can meet any challenge."

On behalf of the 132,000 Jaycee members and the 4 million people that have passed through our organization I would like to thank this committee and Chairman Dennis Hastert for the invitation to speak on this topic. I hope that this is the beginning of a long, proactive relationship that will ultimately benefit all Americans.

DISCLOSURE OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE:

The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce has not received any direct and or indirect Federal Government grants within the previous fiscal year.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Marshall. We have wonderful testimony on behalf of the Jaycees.

I am going to open up just to questioning, and I would like each person to respond as quickly as possible. In your mind, what is the most effective tool that you have put out there for young people to prevent drug use? I shall start with you, Mr. Creighton. Very quickly, of all the things that you have done, what stands out the most, in your opinion?

Mr. CREIGHTON. I think it is incorporating a message on drugs with the value-building and character-building aspects of scouting. It is not a stand-alone; it is part of the fabric of trying to develop the Nation's youth, and I think that is the best way that we can impact the youth, including it, emphasizing it in our scouting program and to values.

Mr. HASTERT. Ms. Dissinger.

Ms. DISSINGER. I think the most important part that we do is public awareness and getting our local-level people to work with other Government agencies and other agencies in developing programs that work at the local level and then educate youth on what is involved in becoming involved with a drug problem.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Sarnecki.

Mr. SARNECKI. I believe that a constant awareness program has to be put forth to keep the problems of drug abuse in front of our young people today. I believe we have to start that awareness program with children from perhaps kindergarten, because that is the time we have to sort of bring it to their attention so that when they meet with peers in later years, they will have an awareness of the dangers of drug abuse.

Another important issue, I believe, is young people dealing with young people rather than people our age trying to tell the young people what they should do or should not do. In our arrangement, we have the youth who work with the young people, and the young people look up to them as role models.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you. Mr. Marshall.

Mr. MARSHALL. I believe that we have been most successful with programs that develop positive self-esteem among the kids, the younger kids. When we reach them at that age, it tends to set their formation for life, with positive messages that it is okay not to do drugs; it is a positive thing. The other thing that I think has been very effective for us, given our age group of 21 to 39, has been effective parenting, making sure that parents understand that they can promote positive self-esteem in their kids and that they need to do that constantly to make sure that they do not fall prey to peer pressure, which is negative.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you. This next question might be a little bit of a touchy question, but I would like to get your perspective on it. What your organizations are doing and what is the sense on most of your growth. One of the places that we have seen almost random drug use, degeneration of our youth, is in the inner cities. A lot of people say that well, there is not a lot of hope and education there. There is not a lot of future for a kid to go out and get a job and share the values that the rest of the country have.

First of all, are your organizations, are you growing in the inner cities, and what kind of programs, if any, do you have in inner cities?

Mr. CREIGHTON. Well, we have had a special emphasis on the last 5 years of trying to increase the minority membership in the Boy Scouts, not only in inner cities, but in some of the farming communities and the Hispanic community. We have had as our backbone volunteers in delivering the scouting program to the youth, but to develop a stronger penetration of the inner cities, we have actually gone to a program of part-time, hired scoutmasters to make sure that we have stability in the adult leadership in those inner communities.

We have, as I mentioned, our membership growth last year was the greatest in 26 years. We are seeing increased minority membership in the scouting youth across the country.

Mr. HASTERT. Ms. Dissinger.

Ms. DISSINGER. We are constantly trying to increase our membership and diversity and take our public awareness programs to communities that are not being reached. That is our effort.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Sarnecki.

Mr. SARNECKI. We try to keep the young people in the urban areas occupied through various units, such as scouting and teen clubs, where we provide activities for them, especially the latch-key children who come home from school and have nothing to do, and that is an opportunity for them to get into trouble. It is just all-around activities that we try and give the youngsters in urban areas, as well as suburbia, involved with.

Mr. HASTERT. Have you had success in that area in the urban areas?

Mr. SARNECKI. Yes, we have. We have been developing a new concept of family centers rather than just lodges, and through the family centers that we have established up to this point there are activities outdoors, as well as indoors, especially in the urban areas, where there is not an overabundance of vacant land for activities. But keeping the youngsters' minds active; that is the approach we are taking.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Marshall.

Mr. MARSHALL. I am very happy to report that our membership numbers are growing in the large metropolitan areas. We have not had a national focus on this, but, there again, providing alternative, positive activities for youth, last year alone, in the fiscal year, we have rebuilt in the inner cities of America 114 baseball diamonds for the youth, places that had become unable to be used by the youth in those inner-city areas. So we went in and rebuilt those facilities and got commitments by the parks and recs. department to keep them up and to provide programs so that these kids would have a clean and safe place to play.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much. Mr. Barrett.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I thank you for holding this hearing. I saw Mr. Creighton sitting there, and I have had Boy Scouts for the last 6 days in a row, it seems. I spoke at an Eagle Scout Award Dinner last Thursday and Sunday spoke at a 75th anniversary of the largest chapter in my district, so it is nice to see you here as well.

Mr. Marshall, my ties with the Jaycees are my brother-in-law and sister-in-law, who passed through the Jaycees. So, obviously, in our family Jaycees are viewed favorably.

I do not have much connection with the Women's Clubs. I think you can understand why. I have had the pleasure to speak with these organizations in my area as well.

I was pleased to hear the chairman's comments. I represent a district which is one of the most economically and racially diverse districts in the country, and I represent both the poorest zip code in the State of Wisconsin and the richest zip code in the State of Wisconsin.

There is real inner peace that comes when you represent a district like that, because you know no matter what you do, you can irritate someone. In many ways, there is a tale of two cities that is reflected, at least in the State that I represent.

When the chairman raised the issue of minority outreach or minority participation, that was touching that nerve with me again. I consider every one of your organizations a superb organization, just tremendous civic organizations, and I want to echo my concern that we do what we can to bring in all aspects of our society. I think that this is a real challenge.

I think that people naturally gravitate to people more like them. That is not good; that is not bad. I just think that is the reality. I have three little kids, and my 4-year-old son has red hair, and my wife and I love the red hair, but he hates it because everybody gives him the noogies and say, "You have got such red hair." The only time that he liked it was when he met another little kid with red hair. He said that was something that pleased him.

So I guess my request to you as much as anything—I really do not have any specific questions—is to do what you can to try to include all aspects of our society. That is so important, and I think one of the dangers we fall into as politicians is that we want to represent the people that elected us. We want to take the resources to the people who elected us, but I think that especially with our youth, the youth that fall through the cracks and do not get involved or that come from families that do not get involved, I think many times are the ones that need our help the most. They are the ones that oftentimes do not get help.

So, I am not even asking you to comment. If you want to comment, that is fine; but, again, I want to applaud you for the fine work you do, which is to try to ask you to do even more. That is a problem for people who do a lot. That means you are asking them to do a lot more. Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. OK. Anybody wish to comment?

Mr. MARSHALL. I just would like to say that on behalf of the Jaycees, we do appreciate this forum. Just the opportunity to testify here is extremely exciting for our membership, and it gives them increased credibility as they go into the communities to do this type of work. We do look forward to any proactive partnership that we can develop from this event.

Mr. CREIGHTON. Well, I would like to just comment, Rep. Barrett, on your request. I think it is very critical that the Boy Scouts do a better job in the minority community. It comes to mind because I have just spent some time recently with them, but to look at our

new Governor in the State of Washington, Gary Locke, the first Asian-American Governor on the mainland, an Eagle Scout. To look at Togo West, the first, I believe, African-American Secretary of the Army, again, an Eagle Scout.

We have created leaders. We have developed character in minorities in the past. Our challenge is to do a much better job of penetrating those communities today and in the future.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much. Mr. Shadegg.

Mr. SHADEGG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to join the comments of both the chairman and my colleague on the other side of the aisle in complimenting all of you for what you do. For those of us who think that Government has not done a great job in its efforts, your volunteer efforts, I think, are doing an important job in the fight against drugs and in the fight to just rebuild our communities or strengthen our communities, and I compliment each and every one of you for your efforts and for all that you do.

I do have a couple of questions, but before I get to those, I want to say, Mr. Creighton, I was a Scout, a Cub Scout, a Boy Scout, and I formed my own Explorer Post; and last night my son crossed over from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. I had a ceremony in Phoenix that I had to miss because I was on a plane here.

I also, on a personal note, want to say that I think Weyerhauser was instrumental in the formation of the University of Puget Sound Law School, and I was in the first class at University of Puget Sound Law School. So in that regard, I want to say thank you.

I have some general questions. I just watched a program in Tucson. I was called by a fraternity brother from Tucson—my district is Phoenix—who said, come to Tucson; I want to show you an anti-drug program being presented at a Tucson high school, and would you give me a couple of hours of your time to drive down to Tucson and watch it? I did.

It was a program presented to, I guess, all of the juniors and seniors in the high school. There were, I believe, five actors, all of whom had been alcoholics or drug addicts at some point in their lives, and the program was originally started, by the way, in Seattle. But they each went through a kind of a dramatic presentation, individually and as groups, about how drugs had impacted them.

There were discussions of a drug deal that had gone bad, and the two of them would talk about that drug deal and their involvement in it. Another one would be an example of an argument that had occurred between one of them and one of their parents. Another member of the cast would play this out.

Following their presentation, the students in the high school were able to ask them some questions. I found a couple of things fascinating, and I guess I am interested in your reaction.

No. 1, the first question that the students from the school asked was, were those hypotheticals that you presented, or were they real experiences that you each had in your lives? The members of the cast answered that every, single little skit—and they went through maybe half an hour or more of these—had been something that had really occurred in their lives.

One of them had been in a drug deal that had almost gone bad before he had cleaned his life up, and the students were extremely impressed by that.

The second thing that I found fascinating went at the issue, to a certain degree, of hypocrisy: adults' use of alcohol and kids' use of drugs. Each of the kids made the point that a drug is a drug is a drug. Each of these kids, I think three of the five were alcoholics, and the adults running the program were alcoholics.

My question to you is, to what degree do your programs stress alcohol as a drug and the danger of kids getting involved in alcohol, and to what degree have you heard from professionals that it is good to treat them together, abuse of alcohol as well as abuse of drugs? Mr. Creighton.

Mr. CREIGHTON. Well, in the "Drugs: A Deadly Game," I referred to, we treat alcohol as a drug, just as we do marijuana, cocaine, or other addictive substances.

Mr. SHADEGG. Have you watched the reaction amongst kids? Does that seem to play well, or do you have a sense for that?

Mr. CREIGHTON. I think they understand it. I think there is some conflict in their minds because they see alcohol being used in people's daily lives, and it is a little difficult for them to equate if it is a drug and it is bad, then why do I see my parents, why do I see people in restaurants, and why do I see people using it? But I do think that they understand that it can have significant negative effects on your life.

Mr. SHADEGG. The statistic they used in this presentation was that one out of every five people who come in contact with alcohol will turn out to be an alcoholic and that this is a sickness that may manifest itself in your life, and from there it is into drugs, or from drugs it is into alcohol.

Ms. Dissinger.

Ms. DISSINGER. We have two resolutions. One is titled "Substance Abuse," and the other one is titled "Substance Abuse Rehabilitation." So, therefore, we do not just talk about drugs, but we include alcohol, the whole gamut, in our programs that we are presenting and urging that they have programs for alcohol as well as the other drugs.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Sarnecki.

Mr. SARNECKI. I believe the issue is interrelated. From the youngsters that we have been dealing with in various youth awareness programs, they do stress the fact that it is basically a step upwards as far as substance abuse is concerned. You start off with drinking beer, and then later on it will lead to marijuana and then to cocaine or something stronger and faster than that. So, in our programs, we just generalize and, in fact, talk about the substance abuse in general.

I just want to comment that as far as the presentation that you referred to, there are younger people involved and such, and I recently conducted focus group meetings among our members, and a member came up with a real good idea, and I said, "Why didn't you ever bring that to our attention before?" He said, "No one ever asked us."

So I think the same thing refers to our youth of today. It is OK for us to guide the programs, to get them involved, but I think we

desperately need the input of the kids who are involved with the various situations today so they can enlighten us and give us a better idea of how we should handle this situation.

Mr. SHADEGG. Now, all members of this cast—as I said, I think there were five young people in the cast—the oldest one was like 23 or 24. The youngest, I believe, was a young lady, 18, and they were all recovering alcoholics or drug addicts who acknowledged and who had beaten their problem, but were talking about its impact on their lives.

Mr. Marshall.

Mr. MARSHALL. We treat all illegal substances as illegal substances. If it is alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, it is illegal, and there is Federal law that it is illegal for minors to have access to tobacco under the age of 18. So we make no distinction in that.

Using the same thing you are talking about, with our "Want To Get Wasted or Want To Get Home" program, we use a videotape. In that videotape, you have, showing it to juniors and seniors, you have a young man on there who is high school age who is in a drug rehab center talking about his experience. We have a young man standing in front of a demolished car talking about how it felt to lose his father to a teenaged drunk driver. The last segment of that video is a young woman, a high-school-aged girl. She is in a wheelchair for life and talks about, you know, in a split second her life is changed forever.

You can genuinely see that this has an impact on these juniors and seniors, hearing these real-life experiences and hearing, not from us, but from their peers, about this.

Mr. SHADEGG. My time has expired, Mr. Chairman. I would just urge you to continue to involve young people in making presentations to other young people.

Mr. HASTERT. I thank the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. Cummings from Maryland.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you for holding this hearing. I want to thank all of you all for being here today.

So often what happens in our society, people stand on the sidelines of life, complaining about what ought to be and complain about everything that is wrong but never lift a finger to make a difference. I take this moment to thank you.

Mr. Creighton, you might want to add me to your list of folk who Boy Scouts' helped. Neither my mother nor father got through the first grade. I came up in the inner city of Baltimore. I was a Cub Scout and a Boy Scout, and I was in special education, and now I am a U.S. Congressman. I have to give a lot of credit with regard to that progress—and a Phi Beta Kappa and a lawyer.

But Boy Scouts did something for me, and I hope that you will take this message back to wherever, you know, all across the country when you speak. It gave me a feeling of being included, to be a part of something. That is so significant, and I say to the others of you.

You know, a lot of people think that drugs—I mean, I live in the inner city of Baltimore still, and a lot of people, I think, assume that kids just sort of rush out there to do drugs. Let me tell you of one of the biggest problems. One of you all said it a few minutes

ago: Kids need things to do. They need things to do. They need to be a part of something.

So often, what happens in the inner city is that mother is not there or the mother is working a job, maybe two jobs. Dad may not be there. So the fact is that a kid is growing up not being included, and that is, of course, what a family does. A family gives a child a sense of inclusion.

The Boy Scouts did a lot for me. It brought me into a family. I was fortunate enough to have a mother and a father that were there for me, but they were working very, very long hours. But it gave me an opportunity to be included in something.

Then there came a time that—the interesting thing is that my Boy Scout leader became, later on, a State Senator, and I joined him many years later as a part of the Maryland General Assembly. That, to me, just says a lot. I tell people so often that I consider myself the throw-away kid, the one that they thought would never grow up to be anyone, the one that they thought would never get anywhere.

Everything that you do—and I say this to all of you; I do not have any questions; I just have these comments—every note that you write, every phone call that you make, every meeting that you go to, even when you are tired, you are making a difference in people's lives, and what you are doing is you are touching the future. You are touching the future.

When we are long gone, the kids that you all touch will probably turn around and touch other young people, and so I am just so glad that you all are doing what you do, and I know that it is people like you who made a difference in my life.

I have made it my business to try to take the same kind of effort that you put into your jobs and your efforts to put into other young people's lives so that they can grow up maybe one day and sit in this chair and say that maybe one day I was a throw-away kid, but because of various organizations like the organizations that you all are part of, I am now sitting in the U.S. Congress, the greatest government in the world. I just wanted to thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Well, I am not sure what all of you can say to that, but please, does anybody have any comments?

Mr. CREIGHTON. We are going to do more.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you.

Ms. DISSINGER. I would just like to say, as a volunteer service organization, we are so appreciative of having this opportunity, because we work at the grassroots level and we coalesce, and it is so important that we have partnerships between volunteers, business, and Government agencies.

Mr. HASTERT. You know, if I may, just for a second, I listened to this testimony in other meetings that we have had, and it really comes down—I was in education for 16 years. I had an Explorer post. I have done a lot of things. I probably could have done some things better, but it is really the inherent value of the human being. If we find ways to bring those kids into that reality that they are worth something, there is something that they can do to join in making the world better, whatever it might be, or they have a value, I think that is what our goal is.

We constantly cannot afford to lose that view or that idea that we need to hold out there. It has to be out there all the time.

I am going to ask Mr. Souder, who is our vice-chairman, if he has any questions.

Mr. SOUDER. One thing that I wondered is sometimes when we look at the—there is a tendency to say, and I think one of you mentioned in your testimony—I had to step out for part of the testimony, but that it would be good to have one target drug program. That is kind of always the way the Government looks at it and says we need to have a unified effort as opposed to a coordinated effort of a lot of different groups.

I can see the advantage of a coordinated effort on a school and in the kids, because they see a common theme coming that seems to be organized and not overlap different things. But it strikes me that one of the things, for example, in Ms. Dissinger's testimony, you mentioned different types of things that the kids were doing in different places, which suggests, from what I have seen, too, in a lot of the schools and different organizations that impact with the schools, that part of the benefit here is letting the kids have some ownership of the programs.

It is not necessarily just that the kids that are reached by the programs indirectly. In other words, if they pass out pencils or pass out t-shirts with the program, it is not just the kids who you are reaching through the programs, but you are actively, by providing activities and getting a number of the kids involved in the organization, getting kids themselves with the sense of ownership in the anti-drug war and that if we do not have—just having been a kid not that many years ago, although it seems like a long time, that everybody wants to have a title in an organization or feel like the organization is theirs. If we had one centralized thing, as opposed to a proliferation of a lot of different groups, we would not have as many people with a vested stake in it, in their own variation of making their own decisions.

I wonder what your reaction to that is in the voluntary field. For example, Boy Scouts have their own program, and each of you have different groups with their own programs. The same thing is true at the adult level. If you have the Moose involved in one program and you have the Jaycees involved in another program and you have the Lions Club involved in another program, each group has some stake in it; whereas, if there was one program that somehow a committee came up with, the local club, would they not have as much stake in that?

Mr. MARSHALL. The thing that I noticed in the testimony and in talking to my fellow service club leaders is the way they embraced, say, the "Just Say No" program. I think everybody who testified in this particular setting said that President Reagan had asked, you know, had called each community service club in and said, "Will you get involved in this?" and they did. They all adapted it to various different situations, but they all were under the umbrella of this one particular endeavor.

It had a theme, it had a commonality of purpose, but then again, it left enough leeway that you could do different things to fit different communities and take it to different levels.

It has been my experience with volunteers that most recently, in the nineties, that they have very little spare time. The ability to go out and create a program is not as great as it was 10, 15 years ago, has been my experience. They like a little more structure. They will go out and implement things and make them happen, but they would like a little more guidance than they used to.

So I believe a commonality of purpose, but allow some flexibility for the ownership, the buy-in, the creativity, but I think we do need a sense of direction and an overall theme to the campaign.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much. Thank you for participating and your excellent testimony.

It is now my distinct pleasure to welcome the second panel of civic group representatives. Gordon Thorson of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; Howard Patterson of the Lions Clubs International; William Pease of the American Legion; Dick Herndobler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks; Don Baugher and Larry Chisholm of the Masonic National Foundation for Children; and Dennis Windscheffel, a drug prevention program consultant, who has done a great deal to coordinate the efforts of these groups.

If you would all stand and raise your right hands. Our committee rules require me to swear you in.

[Witnesses sworn.]

Mr. HASTERT. Let the record show that the witnesses responded in the affirmative. Thank you, and let us find a seat here, and please proceed, Mr. Herndobler.

STATEMENTS OF DICK HERNDOBLER, BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS; GORDON THORSON, NATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAM DIRECTOR, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS; HOWARD PATTERSON, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT, LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL; WILLIAM PEASE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS PROGRAM, AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION; DON BAUGHER, PRESIDENT, ACCOMPANIED BY LARRY CHISHOLM, NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MASONIC NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN; AND DENNIS WINDSCHEFFEL, DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAM CONSULTANT

Mr. HERNDOBLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Dick Herndobler, and I serve as the founding director and senior adviser of the Elks Drug Awareness Program. I started the planning process for our program in late 1982, and with an additional grant from our order in 1983, the program was introduced. The program is administered by an executive director, 50 State chairmen, and nearly 2,200 chairmen who have volunteered to direct drug awareness programs in their local communities.

I am also responsible for working with the Government agencies and national organizations involved in this struggle to provide a drug-free environment for our children and grandchildren so they can become productive, responsible, and caring citizens.

We are a supportive organization, and we have two goals. One is to donate the latest and most factual information on alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs to parents and teachers of children in the elementary grades, as they have the greatest influence and can

talk to their children and warn them of the dangers of using these substances.

Our second goal is to provide wholesome and constructive activities after school and on weekends as alternative activities to drugs, gangs, and violence.

In support of our first goal, the printing of our 12 current drug awareness pamphlets and special pieces has reached 15 million copies this last year, making a total donation of over 120 million pieces since our program began. The materials are constantly being reviewed, updated, and changed to keep them current. Our chairmen, when requested by school districts, purchase videos, provide equipment and provide nationally known speakers and musical groups that have a no-use message.

We have cooperated with Government agencies and national organizations, such as working with the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). We have printed and donated over 10 million copies of their "Tips for Teens" series and distributed them through our own network, as well as the Elks Radar Specialty Center in Alabama, in cooperation with the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Information (NCADI). When the Clearinghouse is out of material, then they can use our material.

We have printed, in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), their "Archie" comic book, which emphasizes positive peer counseling. With encouragement from the director of the Drug Enforcement Administration, we have printed their booklet entitled "Speaking Out Against Drug Legalization," as well as their pamphlet on a drug called "Cat."

For 15 years, we have supported and co-sponsored the PRIDE International Drug Conference, and our local and State chairmen have raised funds to assist an average of 1,000 young people to attend this conference every year.

The Greenville Family in Action Resource Center in South Carolina allowed us to help them by printing and distributing their parenting brochure. We work also with the National Family Partnership by providing the funds to print and distribute their newsletter, as well as distribute their Red Ribbons during that campaign.

In support of our second goal, another department of our organization provides after-school and weekend activities for young people. The basketball "Hoop Shoot" program involves over 1½ million boys and girls, and we are one of the largest sponsors of scouting and the Eagle Scout programs.

With the Campfire Girls, Boys' State and Girls' State YWCA and YMCA programs and others, we have touched the lives this last year of 2,900,000 youngsters.

We volunteer as coaches and sponsors of youth athletic teams, such as the Little League, football, bowling, youth Olympics, Special Olympics, summer camps, hunting clubs, and teen centers involving more than 870,000 young people.

Elks have a very strong national commitment to work to support Government agencies and national parent groups to provide a drug-free environment for the Nation's children. In many communities, the Elks Lodge serves as a meeting place for youth groups and adult groups that share concerns about the increase in use of

drugs. We involve young people in many of our other ongoing programs.

I wish I had the time to describe all nine of them, but I am sticking to the Drug Awareness Program particularly. A quick review of the 1996 Annual Report of the Elks National Drug Awareness Program reveals that programs were established in 2,174 communities that reached 4,900,000 young people, as well as more than 1,780,000 adults. There were 36,344 of our own members actively involved, donating over 390,000 volunteer hours.

We trained 25,000 individuals this last year to work in the prevention field in their own community, and we financed 3,432 different drug awareness programs.

Mr. Chairman, I know that the recitation of facts and figures is not always pleasant to listen to, but I brought them forth primarily to emphasize the fact that there is a vast reservoir, a vast, untapped reservoir of men, women, and young people out there in the grassroots areas who are able and willing to devote the time, the energy, and the dedication to this struggle to solve the drug problem.

They want to be part of the solution to that problem. I encourage you to turn to us and let us help you in any way that we can.

Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to appear before this committee.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Herndobler follows:]

ELKS DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

DICK HERNDOBLER
FOUNDING DIRECTOR / SENIOR ADVISOR

Statement by

DICK HERNDOBLER

Founding Director/Senior Advisor
Elks Drug Awareness Program
BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

Hearings on
"Civic Volunteers, Youth Service Organizations,
and the War on Drugs"

Subcommittee on National Security,
International Affairs, and Criminal Justice

February 26, 1997

P.O. BOX 310, ASHLAND, OREGON 97520-0011 (541) 482-3193

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* Programs were established in 2,174 communities.
* Programs reached 4,937,408 young people as well as 1,781,534 adults.
* There were 36,344 of our members actively involved, donating 398,914 volunteer hours.
* 25,268 individuals were trained this year to work in prevention in their local community.
* 3,432 different drug awareness programs were financed.

Mr. Chairman, I sincerely thank you for the opportunity to appear before this committee.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much for your testimony. Obviously, one of the things we want to do is to take that strength that we have all across this country and be willing to go out and make the difference one on one. I appreciate your efforts and your suggestions.

Mr. Thorson, from the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. THORSON. Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee, it is my pleasure to be here today representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars and our 2 million members.

Before we get started here, I would like to set the record straight to ensure that all of you realize that I, too, was a Boy Scout. I am very proud of that, and really, you know, it is kind of, after listening to all of the speakers and hearing about their scouting background, it reminded me of the importance of scouting. It also reminded me of the fact that the Veterans of Foreign Wars throughout the country sponsors 1,232 scouting units nationwide.

To answer your question before it is asked, Mr. Chairman, you asked the other panel about what program that we involve ourselves with that we feel is doing the most in the drug effort. You know, our involvement with boy scouting, through the Veterans of Foreign Wars, is a wonderful opportunity for all of us in the Veterans of Foreign Wars to give something back to our youth and give something back of significance.

So I guess I want to jump on the bandwagon for the Boy Scout program and make it very clear to this panel that scouting has made a significant impact. Most young men in scouting, and in girl scouting, too, young women, that are involved in those kinds of programs do not have the kinds of problems that we are here facing today.

Today, Members of Congress have the opportunity to consider the contributions of volunteer-based organizations in helping our young people stay drug free. As we formulate a national response to America's growing drug use among our very young, our Nation's future, after we consider the number of lives already lost and wasted, the billions of dollars already spent to combat drug trafficking and to rehabilitate the abusers, and the millions of productive hours wasted in fighting the drug war, it is clearly time that we all cooperate and become more involved and organize to save America's youth, our very future.

We must act quickly and sure to take back control of our country.

You know, the Veterans of Foreign Wars was formed way back in 1899, and chartered by the U.S. Congress back in 1936. The purpose of our organization, or I should say, our corporation, is fraternal, patriotic, historical, and educational.

Our all-volunteer organization is made up of approximately 10,500 VFW posts located throughout our Nation. Our diverse membership is made up of men and women who have served their country during time of war, time of combat in military service, individuals who want to continue their service to the country as they work to improve their communities and make America a better place.

Through the past several years, many VFW posts have involved their members in most every kind of youth program designed to create an awareness and/or eliminate substance abuse.

In preparing for this particular testimony, I was looking through our records and looking back at the history of drug awareness in our organization. In fact, I would like to note that in our next issue of the "Veterans of Foreign Wars" magazine, which, again, has a distribution of over 2 million copies, we have an article coming up concerning drug awareness. In fact, I was looking at that particular article, and I thought that maybe I should share some of it with you.

I'd like to read to you a resolution that was passed by the VFW. "Resolved, that the President of the United States be respectfully requested to set aside a week to be known as 'National Anti-dope Week' and that he not only set in renewed motion every possible Government agency whose function it is to stamp out this evil, but that he cause to be gathered together an international conference of competent men and women who will formulate plans and methods of procedure looking toward the eradication of the narcotic-drug evil."

Well, that particular resolution was passed and sent to President Warren G. Harding back in 1923. I find it curious because after reading this resolution written back in 1923, and realizing that this drug problem has been with us since way back then, I know that the author of an article that caused us to write that resolution had indicated in the end, the author indicated that they realized that only a concerted effort at home by concerned citizens could cure this ill.

Now, that is what they were saying back in 1923. It seems to me that is what we are saying today. So I guess we have come full circle, but it points out that the VFW and our Nation, we have been concerned about this drug menace for 75 years, and maybe we ought to get on with it.

Through the past several years, again, we have involved ourselves in many kinds of programs. We have worked with other organizations and volunteered countless dollars and hours to make a difference in the war against drugs. In fact, during a recent 1-year period, 1995 to 1996 program year, over 14 million volunteer hours were spent in community service projects.

The VFW has worked with police officers. We have worked with local social service agencies. We have worked with schools to sponsor needed programs that provide consistent anti-drug messages. VFW posts have worked with self-help with self-help groups and made open their post facilities to groups such as Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous. We have also distributed "Just Say No" buttons, circulated booklets, distributed a children's coloring book, and instituted a contract-for-life program. We have provided videotapes.

Our organization and the majority of the organizations represented here today have provided much time, materials, and money to help educate young people. But just educating our children in the dangers of substance abuse does not appear to be solving the problem. It does not seem to matter how cute, how marketable, or how politically correct we make our program offerings, we end up with only "feel-good" programs with no real, lasting value.

The VFW does not even pretend to have the answer to the drug problems in America today, but we do have a large number of dedicated Americans willing to help.

I see that my time has run out. Could I just have a couple of minutes?

Mr. HASTERT. Yes, if you could kind of summarize.

Mr. THORSON. OK. If I could summarize, we believe that our organization can best serve the War on Drugs by doing what we do best. Teaching young people about our country, the flag, and patriotism, while offering the opportunity to compete for valuable scholarship dollars is a significant and meaningful contribution.

The VFW strongly believes that the future of our country centers on a resolve that we will concentrate on educating our young from crib to college and to provide parents with the opportunity and responsibility to be an active participant in their children's future.

That concludes my statement. I will be happy to respond to any questions you may have.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Thorson follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF GORDON R. THORSON, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, YOUTH ACTIVITIES & SAFETY PROGRAMS, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

On behalf of the more than two million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I wish to commend and to thank you for holding this hearing to emphasize the outstanding efforts of volunteer-based organizations in helping our young people stay drug free. It is very important for Members of Congress to understand the significant contributions of community based volunteer organizations as we formulate a national response to America's drug problem. By holding this hearing, you are clearly demonstrating a commitment to redressing the most insidious problem facing our nation today.

One of the most evil and perplexing issues confronting the country today is substance abuse by a large and increasingly significant segment of our population. We do not need to remind this subcommittee that our country, in fact the whole world, is immersed in drug and substance abuse. The horrible consequences of substance use and abuse plague our very existence. Most every time we read a newspaper, listen to the radio, or watch television we hear vivid testimony and must face the ugly consequences of drug and alcohol-related accidents, crime, violence, suicides and mayhem. It has become very commonplace to hear speakers declaring that every American must become involved in the effort to stop the drug insanity. Most all agree that we must somehow stop the rhetoric, halt the loss of young lives and return to an America that promotes basic human values. After we consider the number of lives already lost and wasted; the billions of dollars already spent to combat drug trafficking and to rehabilitate the abusers; and the millions of productive hours wasted in either fighting or being a victim of the drug war, it is clearly time that we all cooperate, become involved and organize to rid America of this blight on civilized society. We must act quickly and surely to take back control of our country.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States was formed in 1899 and chartered by the United States Congress back in 1936, the purpose of our corporation is fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among our members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomsoever.

Let me give you a brief overview of our organizational structure and the kinds of program activities we currently provide to communities throughout the country. Our all-volunteer organization is made up of approximately 10,500 VFW Posts located within 54 VFW Departments that are identified by each of the 50 states, Europe, Latin America/Caribbean, Pacific Areas and the District of Columbia. Our diverse membership is made up of men and women who have served this country during time of war in military service, individuals who want to continue their service

to country as they work to improve their communities and make America a better place.

The purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars as stated in our Congressional Charter clearly directs our organization to offer programs that center on developing true patriotism, help educate our young people on the history of democracy, foster true allegiance and promote duty to country. Through the past twenty years our many VFW Posts have involved their members in most every kind of youth program designed to create an awareness and/or eliminate substance abuse. We have worked with other organizations and volunteered countless hours and dollars in an attempt to make a difference in the "War Against Drugs." During a recent one year period (1995–96 program year) members contributed 14,192,651 Volunteer Hours into community service projects. To name just a few of our many cooperative substance abuse service activities:

• VFW Posts have worked with local Police officers to implement grassroots anti-drug and anti-crime programs in an attempt to build community morale and take back the streets.

• Working with local social service agencies our members have participated in "big brother" programs, designed to give youth an opportunity to experience what a normal supportive environment is all about.

• VFW Posts have worked with schools to sponsor needed programs that provide consistent anti-drug messages. This includes everything from purchasing anti-drug materials for classrooms, to sponsoring drug awareness speakers, to spearheading the establishment of drug-free school zones.

• And many VFW Posts work with self-help groups and have opened up their post facilities to groups such as Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous.

Through the years we have involved ourselves in several VFW initiatives to help educate young people in our local communities:

• We distributed "Just Say No" buttons.

• Circulated booklets such as What Every Teenager Should Know About Alcohol and About Building A Drug-Free Community.

• Distributed a childrens coloring book called Lets Talk About Alcohol And Other Drugs.

• Instituted a Contract for Life program, that provided a contract agreement between the teenager and his or her parent.

• We have also provided video-tapes to schools called "Boozers and Users" with the intention of educating students of all ages on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse.

Our organization and the majority of organizations represented here today have provided much time, materials and money to help educate young people. But just educating our children on the dangers of substance use and abuse does not appear to be solving the problem. It doesn't seem to matter how cute, how marketable, or how politically correct we make our program offerings, we end up with only "feel-good" programs with no real lasting value.

The VFW does not even pretend to have the answer to the drug problems in America today, but we do have a large number of dedicated American's willing to help. Men and women who served to protect and preserve our republic during time of war. Dedicated men and women who have made a life-long commitment of service to country and have demonstrated a willingness to give their time to support positive community service and youth programs.

After reviewing the following five point strategy offered by the Office of National Drug Control Policy:

1. Motivate America's youth to reject illegal drugs and substance abuse.
2. Increase the safety of America's citizens by substantially reducing drug-related crime and violence.
3. Reduce health, welfare, and crime costs resulting from illegal drug use.
4. Shield America's air, land, and sea frontiers from the drug threat.
5. Break foreign and domestic drug sources of supply.

It becomes increasingly obvious that "Motivating America's youth to reject illegal drugs and substance abuse." is the only segment of this strategy that the Veterans of Foreign Wars can reasonably address. If goal number one could be successfully achieved and youth could be motivated to reject illegal drugs and substance abuse . . . . the other four goals would become unnecessary as there would be no market.

The VFW currently offers good solid programs designed to give students opportunity, education and is an alternative to a negative life style. We promote educational opportunities, a sense of community, pride in their country, respect for the flag and hope for the future. One example is the premier youth program of our organization "the Voice of Democracy Program" it has been in existence for fifty years,

and is an excellent example of an educational scholarship opportunity offered by the VFW to high school students. (The Voice of Democracy Program is a National Audio Essay Competition designed to give 10th, 11th, and 12th grade high school students the opportunity to voice their opinions on their responsibility to our country and to convey their thoughts about our republic and win valuable scholarships. Each year, the program centers on a patriotic theme that challenges the student participants to think about our country in a positive manner. The 1997–98 theme is: "My Voice in Our Democracy".) We now realize that our organization can best serve the "War on Drugs" by doing what we do best. Teaching young people about our country, the flag, and patriotism, while offering the opportunity to compete for valuable scholarship dollars is a significant and meaningful contribution. Every organization seated here today has similar opportunities to offer our youth, but we need a mechanism to better publicize the many opportunities and a way to coordinate our efforts.

The VFW strongly believes the future of our country centers on a resolve that will center on educating our young from crib to college and provide parents with the opportunity and responsibility to be an active participant in their childrens future. A return to promoting family values, love of country and a respect for our fellow man would go a long way towards solving our countries problems. In a recent speech in Boston, Massachusetts, President Clinton said the message to Congress should be direct: "Cross all party lines, throw politics away, throw the speeches in the trash can, join hands, let's do what works and make America the place it has to be."

In closing, Mr. Chairman, the VFW strongly believes the future of our country centers on a organized multifaceted approach to resolving the drug problem with each organization, agency and individual volunteer doing what they do best in the effort. With cooperation, coordination, communication, we may have a chance to get excessive substance use and abuse by America's youth back into control.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Thorson.

Mr. Patterson, of the Lions Club International. Thank you.

Mr. PATTERSON. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Judge Howard L. Patterson, Jr. I presently serve as the first vice-president of Lions Clubs International. I thank you for the invitation allowing our organization to take part in the hearing addressing this very important issue.

Our international president this year, Augustine Soliva, from Brazil, wanted to be here today because of his love for children, but he could not attend due to prior commitments in another part of the world.

Lions Clubs International was founded in 1917 by a Federal businessman in Chicago, IL by the name of Melvin Jones, who saw a vision on the importance of serving the community. Over the last 80 years, our association has grown from a small group of businessmen to become the world's largest service-club organization, with 1.4 million men and women members belonging to over 43,000 affiliated clubs. We serve more than 43,000 communities in 182 countries throughout the world.

From the beginning, our motto has been, "We serve." In 1925, inspired by Helen Keller, we accepted her challenge and have become known over the years as the "Knights of the Blind."

Although much of our work has been provided to care for the needs of the blind and to restore sight to the sightless, our association has also focused continually since its inception on serving the needs of our young people. Over the years, various programs have been developed, including the establishment in 1968 of our Leo Club program. This program now has nearly 130,000 youth members in over 5,000 clubs in 100 countries. Our Leo members develop leadership, experience, and opportunity through community service.

Our association sponsors the Lions Youth Exchange Program, where annually over 4,000 young people between the ages of 15

and 21 have the opportunity of sharing in family and community life in another country. Closely related to our youth exchange is Lions International Youth Camp Program. Young people of different nationalities are brought together to share a camping experience in a spirit of friendship and understanding.

Lions Clubs International also sponsors a worldwide Peace Poster Contest for youth, ages 11 through 13. This annual contest provides youth an opportunity to tell us adults in picture form how they see the world or would like to see the world.

Thanks to the commitment from our local clubs, our organization is the largest sponsor of Boy Scout troops outside of the church organizations. Our local clubs also help sponsor many other youth activities, as well as youth scholarship programs, school-based activities, sporting events, and many other programs too numerous to list.

If any activity has a positive value to our young people and one of our clubs has been approached to assist, we are probably involved.

In 1982, Lions Clubs International made a very important long-term commitment to do what we could to address drug-abuse-related problems. As one of the first major service organizations to do so, our organization felt it was our obligation because of the seriousness of the drug abuse problem. We fully understand that the drug abuse problem facing this country is also a real threat to other countries throughout the world as well.

Our association is continually encouraging our local clubs to assist in community drug-abuse-prevention efforts. Because of our strong commitment to address this issue, Lions Clubs International provided funding to help underwrite the development of school-based, drug abuse and violence-prevention curricula. This was accomplished in partnership with Quest International. The curricula provided youth with skills necessary to resist negative influences, such as alcohol, tobacco, and other harmful drugs, teaching them to make healthy, mature decisions.

With the financial assistance of many of our clubs, the curricula have reached over 10 million young people worldwide, at a rate of approximately 2 million students per year. The Lions/Quest curricula include "Skills for Growing" for elementary school students, "Skills for Adolescents" for middle-school students, and "Skills for Action" for high school students.

Most recently, our organization renewed its commitment to youth by adoption of the Lions Youth Outreach Program. The theme of this program is "Challenging Tomorrow—Today." The mission of the Youth Outreach Program is to help and to challenge youth to learn to achieve and to serve. Its goal is to develop responsible adult citizens, parents, and community leaders for the future. Important program components include drug abuse prevention, community education, environmental, health, international, and recreational services.

As part of the Youth Outreach Program, Lions Clubs International has invested in the production of a video and accompanying written materials entitled "The Future Is Ours—So Now What?" This program, sponsored by our local clubs, is presently being offered in North America. It is our goal to make this program

available at no charge to any requesting schools and youth-serving organizations to help motivate young people in service. A program kit has been provided to the subcommittee staff, which can be shared with interested congressional Members.

This year, Lions Club Youth Outreach has gained a new dimension. Lions Clubs around the world are becoming involved in helping street children, who are at great risk. There are well over 100 million children roaming the streets without proper shelter or guidance. Our clubs are being educated on the scope of the street-children problem, as well as being informed with the information and ideas on how they can become involved in alleviating this problem in their communities.

Because of the strong belief that investing in our young people is the best protection for our future, our association made a most important decision to host a very timely summit leadership meeting last June here in Washington, DC. The summit was attended by representatives from over 30 of our leading civic and youth-serving, volunteer organizations, including many here testifying today at this hearing.

Also attending were representatives from drug-prevention-based coalitions, Federal Government agencies, as well as key Members of Congress with drug-control oversight responsibilities.

The purposes of the June summit were to share current efforts and objectives of each association's mission to help young people to discuss possible collaborative initiatives and to identify strategies to encourage and support youth-volunteer efforts in the communities. Addressing problems related to drug abuse was seen as essential in the efforts of every organization which attended.

Our organization believes that the summit was a very important step toward initiating much-needed action. Copies of the summit summary report and our international magazine with an article covering that meeting has been provided to subcommittee staff for distribution to each congressional Member.

In closing, our organization would like to publicly acknowledge the support provided by so many others who devote their resources and energy as we do to help young people to become the best they can be. Our association realizes that the only way that we will effectively address the many needs and serious challenges facing young people today is to unite, working together for this common cause.

For the sake of our children and youth, I can assure you that the Lions Clubs International, as the largest service-club organization, accepts the responsibility to maintain a leadership role in our Nation's efforts toward a victory over the War on Drugs. Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Patterson follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF JUDGE HOWARD L. PATTERSON, JR., FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL

Good morning! My name is Judge Howard L. Patterson, Jr. I presently serve as the 1st Vice-President of Lions Clubs International. I thank you for the invitation allowing our organization to take part in this hearing addressing a very important issue. Our International President this year, Augustin Soliva from Brazil, wanted to be here today because of his love for children, but could not attend due to prior commitments in another part of the world.

Lions Clubs International was founded in 1917 by a local businessman in Chicago, Illinois, Melvin Jones, who saw a vision on the importance of serving the community. Over the last 80 years our Association has grown from a small group of businessmen to become the world's largest service club organization. With 1.4 million men and women members belonging to over 43,000 affiliated clubs, we serve more than forty-three thousands communities in 182 countries throughout the world. From the beginning, our motto has been "We Serve." In 1925, inspired by Helen Keller, we accepted her challenge and have become known over the years as the "Knights of the Blind."

Although much of our work has been provided to care for the needs of the blind and to restore sight to the sightless, our association has also focused continually on serving the needs of our young people. Over the years, various programs have been developed including the establishment in 1968 of our Leo Club program. This program now has nearly 130,000 youth members in over 5,000 clubs in 100 countries. Our Leo members develop Leadership, Experience, and Opportunity through community service.

Our Association sponsors the Lions Youth Exchange Program where annually over 4,000 young people between the ages of 15–21 have the opportunity of sharing in family and community life in another country. Closely related to youth exchange is the Lions International Youth Camp Program. Young people of different nationalities are brought together to share a camping experience in a spirit of friendship and understanding. Lions Clubs International also sponsors a world-wide Peace Poster contest for youth ages 11–13. This annual contest provides youth an opportunity to tell us adults in picture form how they see the world or would like to see the world.

Thanks to the commitment from our local clubs, our organization is the largest sponsor of Boy Scout troops, outside of church organizations. Our local clubs also help sponsor many other youth agencies as well youth scholarship programs, school-based activities, sporting events, and many more programs too numerous to list. If an activity has positive value to our young people, and one of our clubs is approached to assist, we are most likely involved.

In 1982, Lions Clubs International made a very important long term commitment to do what we could to address drug abuse related problems. As one of the first major service organizations to do so, our organization felt it was our obligation because of the seriousness of drug abuse. We fully understand that the drug abuse problem facing this country is also a real threat to other countries throughout the world as well. Our Association is continually encouraging our local clubs to assist in community drug abuse prevention efforts.

Because of our strong commitment to address this issue, Lions Clubs International provided funding to help underwrite the development of school-based drug abuse/violence prevention curricula. This was accomplished in partnership with Quest International. The curricula provide youth with skills necessary to resist negative influences such as alcohol, tobacco, and other harmful drugs, teaching them to make healthy, mature decisions.

With the financial assistance of many of our clubs, the curricula has reached over ten million young people world-wide at a rate of approximately two million students per year. The Lions-Quest curricula includes Skills for Growing for elementary school students, Skills for Adolescent for middle school students, and Skills for Action for high school students.

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As part of the Youth Outreach Program, Lions Clubs International has invested in the production of an video and accompanying written lesson materials entitled, "The Future In Ours . . . So Now What?" This program sponsored by our local clubs is presently being offered in North America. It is our goal to make this program available at no charge to any requesting schools and youth serving organizations to help motivate young people in service. A program kit has been provided to subcommittee staff which can be shared with interested Congressional members.

This year, Lions Youth Outreach has gained a new dimension. Lions clubs around the world are becoming involved in helping street children—who are at great risk. There are well over 100 million children roaming the streets without proper shelter of guidance. Our clubs are being educated on the scope of the street children prob-

lem, as well as being provided with information on ideas on how they can become involved in alleviating this problem in their communities.

Because of our strong belief that investing in our young people is the best protection for our future, our Association made a most important decision to host a very timely leadership summit meeting last June here in Washington, D.C. The summit was attended by representatives from over thirty of our leading civic and youth serving volunteer organizations, including many here today testifying at this hearing. Also attending were representatives from drug prevention-based coalitions, federal government agencies as well as key members of Congress with drug control oversight responsibilities.

The purposes of the June summit were to share current efforts and objectives of each organization's mission to help young people, to discuss possible collaborative initiatives, and to identify strategies to encourage and support youth volunteer efforts in communities. Addressing problems related to drug abuse was seen as essential in the efforts of every organization which attended. Our organization believes that the summit was a very important step towards initiating much needed action. Copies of the summit summary report and our international magazine with an article covering the meeting has been provided to subcommittee staff for distribution to each Congressional member.

In closing, our organization would like to publicly acknowledge the support provided by so many others who devote their resources and energy as we do to help young people become the "best they can be." Our Association realizes that the only way that we will effectively address the many needs and serious challenges facing young people today is to unite, working together for this common cause.

For the sake of our children and youth, I can ensure you that Lions Clubs International as the largest service club organization accepts the responsibility to maintain a leadership role in our nation's efforts towards victory over the "war on drugs!" Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Patterson.

Mr. Pease.

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Chairman, the American Legion appreciates this opportunity to present testimony on its efforts on the War on Drugs. Recent statistics about drug use in America are alarming, and the subcommittee's leadership and continued oversight will play an important role in resolving this tragedy.

The American Legion has been involved in the War on Drugs since its 1924 National Convention. It has always believed that cooperative, volunteer efforts at the community level have the best chance of both effectiveness and survival.

A growing tragedy is the prevalence of drug use in elementary-school-age children, many of whom come in contact with drugs by age 7. Programs which provide prevention education, teach responsible decisionmaking, and stress the importance of self-reliance, citizenship, leadership, and self-esteem are seen as viable components to the War on Drugs which should be utilized in efforts to decrease teenage drug involvement.

The current programs of the American Legion are designed to keep youth active and help instill within them a sense of pride in the future of their community, State, and Nation. These include American Legion Baseball, the National High School Oratorical Contest, Boys State and Boys Nation, scouting, and Junior Shooting Sports.

Last year alone, the American Legion spent $60 million on its children and youth programs. Success stories of American Legion programs are exemplified by President Clinton's and Rep. Ramstad's involvement in Boys Nation. In addition, over 60 percent of all professional baseball players have participated in American Legion Baseball.

For over 45 years, the American Legion has promoted and distributed through our local posts, education and prevention literature concerning the national issue of drug abuse. During the years of 1970 to 1996, for example, over 3½ million pieces of drug abuse information were distributed to schools and other community-based, youth organizations.

In the last 10 years, the American Legion has made a concentrated effort in the education of elementary-school-age children. To do this, the American Legion restructured its materials to provide a more pictorial format. As a result, children are able to relate what they see without having to worry about the words they can neither read nor understand. A message to parents is presented on the opening panel encouraging them to review the information with their children.

The American Legion's primary approach to the program has always stressed prevention through education. The American Legion believes that to make any real advances, the Nation must curtail the demand. While interdicting the supply is important, the supply will only decrease when the demand declines.

The American Legion continues to urge the President and the Congress to fully support, with adequate funding, all border, State, Federal, and military drug-trafficking-prevention programs, to include the continued use of Reserve and National Guard forces. In addition, the American Legion encourages the availability of funding for community-based and community-oriented organizations to continue their efforts in the War on Drugs.

Literature and alternative activities like those offered by the American Legion, as well as public service announcements with the use of celebrity spokespersons must all be instrumental if we are to succeed. These alternative avenues to the family cell are necessary because family is no longer the deterrent it has been in the past. The family is becoming an endangered species, with single-parent homes becoming commonplace in many communities.

The American Legion encourages information dissemination as a way to increase the public's awareness of the consequences of illicit drug use. This includes the establishment or continued maintenance of clearinghouses and information centers, development of resource directories, brochures, and the advancement of health fairs.

Education programs should be aimed at increasing life and social-skill building, decisionmaking, refusal skills, and judgment abilities. These may include family management classes and mentoring programs.

While the American Legion believes that schools should concentrate on providing basic learning skills, drug prevention and early intervention strategies with an emphasis on family involvement should be increased. Most importantly, America's youth need viable alternatives like those offered by the American Legion.

In closing, the American Legion would like to reiterate the emphasis on the family. The Government, local communities, and civic and youth organizations are all important in the War on Drugs, but they can never replace a cohesive, family unit.

The American Legion believes that the Federal Government should continue to concentrate on drug trafficking and interdiction

to provide the necessary resources for civic and youth organizations to work with local communities to involve America's youth and their families.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my testimony.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Pease follows:]

WILLIAM A. PEASE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
AMERICANISM AND CHILDREN AND YOUTH
THE AMERICAN LEGION

BEFORE THE

HOUSE GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON
CIVIC VOLUNTEERS, YOUTH SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AND THE WAR ON DRUGS

FEBRUARY 26, 1997

Mr. Chairman, The American Legion appreciates this opportunity to present testimony on its efforts in the war on drugs. Recent statistics about drug use in America is alarming and the subcommittee's leadership and continued oversight will play an important role in resolving this tragedy. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, the United States has the highest rate of teen drug use of any nation in the industrialized world and teen tolerance for drugs is rising.

In the past four years teen use of the gateway drug marijuana has increased dramatically (8th grade - up 146%; 10th grade - up 112%; 12 grade - up 78%) and addiction experts predict that about 820,000 of this new group of marijuana smokers will eventually try cocaine. The cost of drug abuse and trafficking is enormous. The Office of National Drug Control Policy reported that since 1990 over 100,000 people have died from drugs and more than $300 billion has been spent to purchase drugs. Annually, there are approximately 500,000 emergency room cases, 20,000 deaths and 250,000 Americans serving time for drug law violations.

The American Legion has been involved with the war on drugs since its 1924 National Convention, when it observed "the growing evil and great menace of the illegal use of narcotics among the people of our nation, including many children of high school age," and urged "all agencies in the nation to spend every effort to correct the great evil of narcotic peddling and smuggling." In 1938, The American Legion promoted a program to educate the public as to the dangers youth face from the use of marijuana and to amend the Uniform State Narcotic Act in accordance with the Federal Act in regard to this drug.

In June of 1950, National Commander Erle Cocke, Jr., appointed a Special Narcotics Committee which held a three-day clinic in New York and received the expert advice from many of the nation's leading authorities in the field of narcotics. As a result, a 14-point program was drawn up and duly adopted at The American Legion's 33rd National Convention in 1951. Some of the recommendations included are as follows:

1. The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations arrange as soon as possible an international conference to approve the protocol to limit the production of opium to medical and scientific needs.

2. The prevention of smuggling be made a mandatory function and a statutory prescription established by an Act of Congress, as was proposed in House Resolution 4544 of the 82nd Congress.

3. State legislatures enact similar legislation patterned after the laws already adopted in Tennessee, West Virginia, New Jersey and Maryland. The American Legion further recommended that mandatory minimum sentence provisions be made a uniform amendment to the Uniform Narcotics Act now in effect in 42 states, and that such uniform amendment also emphasize the fact that illegal possession should itself be a crime.

4. Congress improve hospital accommodations for the U.S. Public Health Service.

5. States and cities provide hospital facilities for the cure as well as treatment of drug addicts.

6. States increase the force of narcotic enforcement agents and that city police departments establish adequate narcotic squads (municipal squads should be patterned after the effective unit in Los Angeles).

7. Provide for dissemination of information relative to dangers of illicit drug use.

The American Legion has always believed that cooperative volunteer efforts in the war on drugs at the community level have a greater chance for effectiveness and survival. Due in part to this belief, The American Legion was invited to become a charter member of the National Coordinating Council on Drug Abuse Education and Information in June of 1968.

The problems of drugs and drug abuse have surpassed epidemic proportions and have become increasingly complex, affecting all facets of life within America. Youth of this nation are pressured on many fronts to experiment with or possibly become a regular user of various drugs. The temptation to use drugs is seen at all levels of our society with younger and younger children joining the "in group" at an unprecedented rate. A growing tragedy is the prevalence of drug use in elementary school age children, many who come in contact with drugs by age seven. Programs which provide prevention education, teach responsible decision-making and stress the importance of self-reliance, citizenship, leadership and self-esteem are seen as viable components to the war on drugs which should be utilized in efforts to decrease teenage drug involvement.

The American Legion itself has programs designed for youth to keep them active, and that will help instill within them a sense of pride in the future of their community, state and nation. Programs such as American Legion Baseball, the National Oratorical Contest, Boys State and Boys Nation, Scouting, and Junior Shooting Sports are just some examples. Last year alone, The American Legion spent $60 million of its own money on its Children and Youth Programs. Success stories of American Legion programs are exemplified by President Clinton's and Representative Jim Ramstad's involvement in Boys Nation. In addition, over 60 percent of all professional baseball players have participated in American Legion Baseball.

The American Legion has promoted and distributed for over 45 years, educational and prevention literature concerning the national issue of drug abuse through our Posts, to the schools and other community-based youth organizations. During the years of 1970 to 1996, for example, over 3,666,177 pieces of drug abuse information was distributed. During the last ten years The American Legion has made a concentrated effort in the education of elementary school aged youngsters. To do this The American Legion restructured its materials to more of a pictorial content.

As a result, children are able to relate to what they see without having to worry about words they can't read or understand. The American Legion has produced information on alcohol, cocaine, and marijuana in this format which has become widely accepted by school systems across the country. Recently, these titles have been consolidated into a single piece called "Gateway Drugs." Primary distribution is made through American Legion Posts to local school systems. A message to the parents is contained on one panel so they can go over the information with their children. The American Legion's primary approach to this program has always stressed prevention through education. The American Legion believes that to make any real advances, the nation must curtail the demand. While interdicting the supply is important, it is obvious, we will never catch the majority of substances that cross the nation's borders. The supply will only decrease when the demand declines.

The American Legion believes the illegal trafficking of drugs into the United States is one of the greatest threats to the welfare and safety of American citizens, particularly its youth. Enemies of this nation and its way of life can destroy the U.S. from within by debilitating our most precious resources for the future, its children. The American Legion continues to urge the President and the Congress to fully support with adequate funding all border, state, federal and military drug trafficking prevention programs through which children and youth might secure a more stable and healthy future. In addition, The American Legion encourages the availability of funding for community-based and community-oriented organizations to continue their efforts in the war on drugs.

An outstanding example of a community-oriented organization is the Drug Education For Youth (DEFY) program. This program was designed by professional educators working with members of the Navy and the Marine Corps to provide a comprehensive youth leadership, education and citizenship program that teaches young people to resist drug use

and crime through personal excellence and success. The American Legion supports this program and has urged all Departments and Posts, where appropriate, to utilize available resources which encourage children to achieve their highest potential by living a drug-free life. The American Legion will work with DEFY to provide on site support like mentoring, student recognition and other volunteer support.

An increasing number of youth are involved in the illegal use of substances, because many adults, respected by youth, including doctors, lawyers, athletes, professors, legislators and others have stated that marijuana and other hallucinatory drugs are harmless and should be legalized. The American Legion opposes any such legislation, at any level, that would legalize the sale or use of marijuana, except as prescribed by a licensed physician for the treatment of a serious illness. Legalizing marijuana and other hallucinatory drugs would substantially increase our nation's problems with drug abuse, including illegal sales, crime and further widespread use and addiction.

The recent legalization in California of certain controlled substances has set a very dangerous precedent, which will undoubtedly spread, to cause referendums in other states. The more youth see adults as regular users of these substances, the more they will look at it as acceptable behavior. If we lose the battle with youngsters at an early age in their development, the nation has no chance to even make a dent in the problem of community substance abuse.

At National Convention in 1971, The American Legion issued a General Drug Abuse Statement which, though amended, still stands today. The statement reads:

"The American Legion is urged at all levels to join the battle against drug abuse as it affects our nation's young people. That to the extent possible, we will work with the Congress, state legislators and state and federal agencies when, as an organization, The American Legion believes changes or additions to our laws or government policies are desirable. That accessible programs be designed to avoid scare tactics, emotionalism, and over-simplification of a most complex national problem. And lastly, that drugs and drug abuse must be attacked as a whole, which includes international relations, law enforcement, education, judicial reform, research, treatment and rehabilitation."

This is not a problem that government or civic and youth organizations can cure on their own. Civic and youth organizations are a very important part of the process, but the message is useless if it is not received by young children at the elementary and junior high school levels. This is the battleground that will ultimately determine success or failure. Literature and alternative activities like those offered by The American Legion, as well as public service announcements and athletic spokespersons must all be instrumental if we are to succeed.

These alternative avenues to the family cell are necessary because family is no longer the deterrent it has been in the past. The family is becoming an endangered species with single parent homes becoming common place in all communities. The American Legion

sincerely encourages Congress and all government drug agencies, to include the Office of National Drug Control Policy, to seek and be receptive to suggested ideas that can assist state, local and organizational efforts to get positive alternatives in communities that will target young people.

The American Legion encourages information dissemination as a way to increase the public's awareness of the consequences of illicit drug use and the use of alcohol by underage populations, as well as prevention programs and services. This includes the establishment or continued maintenance of clearinghouses and information centers, development of resource directories, brochures and the advancement of health fairs. Education programs should be aimed at increasing life and social skill-building, decision-making, refusal skills and judgment abilities. They must also include family management classes, peer leader/helper and mentor programs.

Although The American Legion believes that the primary focus of schools should be basic learning skills, drug prevention and early intervention strategies with an emphasis on family involvement should be increased. Most importantly, America's youth need viable alternatives like those offered by The American Legion. In addition, the government needs to continue in its efforts to improve the effectiveness of law enforcement to stop the flow of drugs into the United States, to include the continued use of active military and reserve and National Guard forces.

In closing, The American Legion would like to reiterate the emphasis on the family unit. The government, local communities and civic and youth organizations are all important in the war on drugs, but they can never replace a cohesive family unit. The American Legion believes the federal government should continue to concentrate on drug trafficking and interdiction and provide the necessary resources for civic and youth organizations to work with local communities to involve America's youth and their families.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my testimony.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much. There are certainly fine efforts of the American Legion.

Mr. Baugher.

Mr. BAUGHER. Mr. Chairman, one of the privileges of being president is delegation. I have asked Larry Chisholm, our executive director, to present the testimony this morning on behalf of the National Masonic Foundation.

Mr. HASTERT. Without objection.

Mr. CHISHOLM. Thank you, Don. Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee, we have already submitted for the record our rather lengthy statement. I will not try to recite that. Let me try to emphasize part of it and expand on one other part of it in the few minutes that I have.

When we began in May 1987, it was already rather late in what was then called the "War on Drugs." I do not like the simile, but that is what was used. We looked at our limited resources and said, "What part of this can we do?" We thought our assumption was when we began, that we would simply step into something that was already ongoing.

What we quickly found was that while there were a lot of people jumping up and down and saying, "nobody cares, nobody cares," our perception was that a lot of people cared, but nobody knew what the right solution was, what the response to this problem was. It was rather surprising. As I say, it was already rather late in the game.

So we looked at it for ourselves, analyzed it for ourselves, and what we came up with was there are four elements in the solution of the problem of alcohol and other drug abuse among children: awareness, treatment, enforcement, and prevention. What we also saw rather quickly was that the misunderstanding of the right values between these or the right mix of these was responsible for the waste of billions of dollars with no perceived progress. The danger to this is that if the no perceived progress continues, it will lead to frustration.

I think, to a great extent, it already has among the public, and the final surrender will get very attractive, and we will just go with legalization. Our perception of legalization is that most arguments for it distill down to reducing the case load of the system and the courts, and perhaps there is a less-threatening solution to that problem.

Let me deal briefly with each of the four elements. We talked to a lot of treatment professionals. The treatment professionals themselves were telling us that they could not keep up with the nature and the scope of this problem. If we are to be a humane society, we must offer treatment for those who have fallen into the pit of addiction and somehow find the will to climb out of it.

But as one of our former—again, the ancient phrase, "drug czars," has said, we do not win a war by treating the wounded; and the treatment community themselves were aware of that, even with the optimum possible resources that they had received.

Enforcement can hold back the dam from bursting while we solve whatever the problem is. That latter part has to be pursued, or enforcement is helpless. We had Ed Heath, who was, at the time, head of the Drug Enforcement Administration Worldwide Intel-

ligence, as a guest speaker at our annual meeting a couple of years ago; and after he spoke very eloquently about his view of what was going on around the world and the flow of drugs, and it was horrifying—the horror stories were very impressive—he ended with saying, please, please, please, groups like you and other groups, please pursue prevention programs because they cannot catch up to the scope of it either unless we reduce use and demand.

The other two elements, awareness and prevention; awareness programs is everything from poster contests to kids to TV programs. The biggest problem or danger with awareness is believing that it is synonymous with prevention; it is not. It is very different, and, again, a lot of money has been wasted on this misunderstanding.

Awareness programs can tell you that a problem exists. It can give you some idea of the scope and nature of the problem, and most of all, it can keep people aware that something is there and that something needs to be done about it. Another element must be added if there is to be prevention, and that requires direct involvement.

I think I see generally a movement heading toward that, toward more involvement. We have a program called the Masonic Model Student Assistance Training. It is a pure prevention program, and, in fact, three of our most successful jurisdictions are represented here on the subcommittee, your own State, Illinois, as you know; and Arizona and Maryland.

In brief, what the Masonic model does is takes court teams from schools, usually five to seven educators. I say educators because it will be teachers. It will also be administrator, school nurse, guidance counselor. We try to keep it flexible enough so if there is any school employee, a janitor or cafeteria worker, that has a particular rapport with the children, that they be included on the court team; and we have had some miracles with this. We had one janitor become chairman of the court team to clean up the school in Maryland, as a matter of fact.

We would take about 10 of these teams and put them through a training week. There is an awful lot in the training. I will not take time for that now. There are two things that make it most effective: our heavy emphasis on identification of who are the children that are going to use before they start using. It is pure prevention. A lot of people do not even know this can be done. It can be, and it is surprisingly easy.

The second part of the emphasis is on once you make the identification—and we are talking about children in pain here, basically, that is what we are talking about—once you make the identification, how do you intervene? What do you do? In many cases, of course, the intervention is taking place where the addictive cycle may have gone on in the family for generations.

We now have affected hundreds of thousands of children throughout the country already. The jurisdiction where we have been the longest, for example, from our beginning, our training in the State of Pennsylvania. For the last reporting year, 1994 to 1995, the last year for which we have figures, 71,637 children were referred to the court teams. These are children that are in trouble,

or already headed toward trouble. As of the most recent report, 86 percent of those have shown on further signs of difficulty.

We can get fancy by talking about doing this and how we do it. Basically, what it is all about is setting up a systematic way for caring adults to be in touch with the children. That is what we do. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Chisholm follows:]

CHILDREN AND DRUGS:
UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM -- AND THE SOLUTION

NATIONAL MASONIC FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE, WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT OUR VIEWS ON THIS CRITICAL PROBLEM THAT TODAY, AS IT HAS FOR MANY YEARS NOW, THREATENS TO ERODE THE VERY FOUNDATIONS OF OUR SOCIETY.

WHEN THE NATIONAL MASONIC FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN WAS CREATED BY THE NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS IN 1986, WE FIRST ASKED OURSELVES WHAT MIGHT BE OUR APPROPRIATE ROLE IN HELPING TO REACH A SOLUTION.

EVERYONE RECOGNIZED THAT NO SINGLE ORGANIZATION, NOT EVEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, HAD ENOUGH RESOURCES TO TACKLE THE ENTIRE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM ALONE. WE WERE SURPRISED TO DISCOVER, ON EXAMINATION, THAT EVEN AT THAT COMPARATIVELY LATE DATE THERE WAS NOT ONLY NO COHESIVE AND DEFINED NATIONAL EFFORT, THERE ALSO SEEMED TO BE NO GENERAL PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THAT EFFORT SHOULD LOOK LIKE, OR WHAT A RATIONAL SOLUTION MIGHT BE! WE HAD TO DEFINE IT FOR OURSELVES.

THERE ARE FOUR ELEMENTS TO THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AMONG OUR CHILDREN: AWARENESS, TREATMENT, ENFORCEMENT, AND PREVENTION.

THE REASON WE AS A COUNTRY HAVE EXPERIENCED SUCH GREAT FRUSTRATION IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM, AND HAVE MADE SUCH MINISCULE PROGRESS, IS BECAUSE THE RIGHT BALANCE AMONG THESE FOUR ELEMENTS, AND THE WAY IN WHICH THEY MUST WORK TOGETHER, IS ALMOST WHOLLY MISUNDERSTOOD.

AWARENESS PROGRAMS, INCLUDING EVERYTHING FROM WALL POSTERS TO TV SPECIALS, ARE AN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY ELEMENT OF THE SOLUTION. BUT THERE IS A BELIEF AMONG SOME IN OUR SOCIETY THAT POURING ENOUGH INFORMATION ON THE PROBLEM WILL PUT OUT THE FIRE, THAT WE CAN SOMEHOW TALK THIS PROBLEM AWAY. THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN.

THERE IS ALSO EVIDENCE THAT PURSUING INFORMATION PROGRAMS -- IN ISOLATION -- CAN PRODUCE THE OPPOSITE RESULT FROM WHAT IS INTENDED! LET US TAKE SPACE HERE FOR JUST ONE AMONG MANY EXAMPLES: ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR ANTI-DRUG PROGRAMS OF THE EIGHTIES (AND STILL TODAY AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE NOT GOTTEN THE WORD) WAS TO PUT RECOVERED ADDICTS FROM THE HOLLYWOOD AND SPORTS WORLDS IN FRONT OF CLASSROOMS OF CHILDREN TO TELL THEIR STORIES. THE INTENT WAS OBVIOUS, THE RESULTS WERE NOT. WHILE WE AS ADULTS HEAR THE MIRACLE OF RECOVERY IN THOSE STORIES, A DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STUDY DEMONSTRATED MORE THAN TEN YEARS AGO THAT CHILDREN REACT VERY, VERY DIFFERENTLY FROM US. CHILDREN HEAR "SUCCESS" AND "DRUGS" AS SYNONOMOUS IN THESE STORIES; CHILDREN DON'T SEPARATE THE MESSAGE AS ADULTS DO!

FURTHER, THOSE WHO THINK WE ARE GOING TO SCARE CHILDREN OUT OF TAKING DRUGS ARE BLINDING THEMSELVES TO THE OBVIOUS: CHILDREN, AND PARTICULARLY AT-RISK CHILDREN, LOVE HORROR STORIES AND HORROR MOVIES. THIS HAS BEEN KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME -- THINK OF THE THEMES IN OUR OLDEST FAIRY TALES. THERE ALSO IS THE FAMOUS EXAMPLE OF THE ANTI-DRUG COMMERCIAL WITH THE FRYING EGG ("THIS IS YOUR BRAIN ON DRUGS"). A STUDY MORE THAN A YEAR AGO SHOWED THAT THE YOUTH POPULATION TARGETED BY THAT AD, AT-RISK CHILDREN, CAN HAVE A COMPLETELY OPPOSITE REACTION TO WHAT IS HOPED FOR --THE HORROR MOVIE SYNDROME AGAIN. CHILDREN ARE DIFFERENT FROM WE ADULTS, AND OUR SOLUTIONS MUST BE TAILORED TO THAT DIFFERENCE IF WE'RE GOING TO INTERRUPT THE ADDICTIVE CYCLE IN THIS COUNTRY.

THERE ARE OTHER SUCH EXAMPLES THAT ALL LEAD TO ONE CONCLUSION: INFORMATION PROGRAMS ALONE ACTUALLY CAN LEAD TO HARMFUL RESULTS IF THE TOTAL DYNAMIC OF THE SOLUTION IS NOT UNDERSTOOD. INFORMATION MUST BE COMBINED WITH SPECIFIC ACTIONS IF THE RIGHT RESULTS ARE TO TAKE PLACE.

TREATMENT PROGRAMS ALSO ARE A NECESSARY ELEMENT OF THE SOLUTION FOR ANY SOCIETY THAT SEEKS TO CALL ITSELF HUMANE. IF SOMEONE WHO HAS FALLEN INTO THE PIT OF ADDICTION CAN FIND THE WILL TO HONESTLY ASK FOR HELP, A HELPING HAND SHOULD BE THERE. BUT TREATMENT PROFESSIONALS THEMSELVES ADMIT THAT THE RESOURCES AREN'T SUFFICIENT, AND PROBABLY NEVER WILL BE, FOR TREATMENT ALONE TO

CATCH UP TO A PROBLEM OF THIS SCOPE. OR AS SUCCINCTLY PUT BY A PREVENTION PROFESSIONAL RECENTLY, "YOU DON'T WIN A WAR BY TREATING THE WOUNDED."

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS CAN KEEP THE DAM FROM BURSTING AND BUY TIME FOR WE, THE PEOPLE, TO SOLVE THIS AGONIZING SOCIAL PROBLEM. BUT THAT ISN'T THE WAY IT'S HAPPENING. MANY AMONG OUR LEADERSHIP, INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY OUR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, INSIST ON TRYING TO SOLVE SOCIAL PROBLEMS WITH ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS. ENFORCEMENT, BY DEFINITION, IS NOT DESIGNED OR INTENDED TO SOLVE SOCIAL PROBLEMS. ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS CAN BE, AND HAVE BEEN, VERY ARTICULATE IN TRYING TO POINT THIS OUT.

THE IDEA THAT WE CAN KILL ALL THE BAD GUYS AND LEAVE THE GOOD GUYS STANDING IS POLITICALLY APPEALING TO MANY, BUT SEEMS TO HAVE A FLAW IN IT.

THERE ALSO SEEMS TO BE PLENTIFUL EVIDENCE THAT SPENDING BILLIONS TO TRY TO STOP THE FLOW OF AN ENDLESS ARRAY OF ADDICTIVE SUBSTANCES IS A FOOL'S GAME. ONE AMONG TOO MANY EXAMPLES: INTERDICTION PROGRAMS THAT AIMED TO DESTROY COCAINE AT ITS SOURCE, THE COCA FIELDS, HAVE BEEN POPULAR THROUGHOUT RECENT YEARS. IN THE EARLY 90'S MILITARY PERSONNEL SPENT HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN ONE OPERATION TO DESTROY THE COLOMBIAN COCA CROP. THEY SUCCEEDED IN DESTROYING AN ESTIMATED 2 PERCENT OF THAT YEAR'S CROP. INSECTS DESTROY 20 PERCENT.

A COMPARATIVELY RECENT DEVELOPMENT IS THE PROLIFERATION OF SOMETHING DUBBED "METH" OR "ICE". IT CAN BE MADE AT HOME FAIRLY SIMPLY FROM COMMONLY AVAILABLE CHEMICALS. WHILE CRACK COCAINE GIVES A HIGH LASTING FROM THREE-QUARTERS OF AN HOUR TO FOUR HOURS, "ICE" GIVES A MORE INTENSE HIGH LASTING FROM 4 TO 14 HOURS. AND UNLIKE COCAINE, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE SMUGGLED ACROSS THE BORDER.

PREVENTION, WORKING WITH CHILDREN TO STOP THE ADDICTIVE CYCLE BEFORE IT CAN START, IS THE ONLY ONE OF THE FOUR ELEMENTS THAT HOLDS HOPE FOR A LONG-TERM, EFFECTIVE SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEM WITH ADDICTION. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLY THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD OF THE FOUR. FOR EXAMPLE, AS INDICATED EARLIER, THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF CONFUSION AMONG MANY VERY WELL-INTENDED PEOPLE THAT AWARENESS PROGRAMS AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS ARE SYNONYMOUS. THEY ARE NOT.

THERE IS AN IMPORTANT POINT THAT MUST BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD: THE MERE ACT OF PRESENTING INFORMATION DOES NOT MEAN THAT PREVENTION TAKES PLACE. MISUNDERSTANDING THIS HAS LED TO A GREAT DEAL OF WASTED TIME, MONEY, AND EFFORT. AND TO A CONCLUSION BORN OF FRUSTRATION THAT NOTHING CAN BE DONE, THAT NOTHING WORKS.

ONE OF THE BITTEREST IRONIES ABOUT DRUG ADDICTION IS THAT OUR CITIZENS DEMAND A QUICK-FIX TO A PROBLEM THAT IS ITSELF A SEARCH FOR A QUICK-FIX TO PROBLEMS. AS INDIVIDUALS, WE SELDOM DISCUSS OR EXAMINE OUR OWN ROLE BECAUSE IF WE DID WE WOULD BEGIN TO SEE THAT, TO SOME EXTENT, WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY AND IT IS US.

OUR PROCESSES AREN'T WORKING. WHY? BECAUSE THEY DIRECT HUGE SUMS OF MONEY TOWARD SYMPTOMS AND LEAVE CAUSES UNTOUCHED. (AND "CAUSES" GO MUCH, MUCH DEEPER THAN JOBS, OR HOMELESSNESS, OR ANY OF THE OTHER AFFLICTIONS THAT ARE PUT FORTH TO PRY MONEY FROM THE PUBLIC TREASURY.)

ONE QUESTION THAT IS SELDOM ASKED IS: WHY ARE TOO MANY OF OUR CHILDREN PUTTING THIS STUFF IN THEIR BODIES? FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, SOME CHILDREN COME TO A PLACE IN THEIR LIVES WHERE THEY ARE IN EXTREME PAIN AND THEY BECOME DESPERATE TO CHANGE THE WAY THEY FEEL. AND WE CAN SAY "JUST SAY NO" UNTIL WE ARE OUT OF BREATH, BUT WHEN A FRIEND OF THEIRS SAYS "TRY THIS" AND THEY TRY IT AND THE PAIN IMMEDIATELY GOES AWAY, ALL THE WARNINGS ABOUT RUINING THEIR BODIES AND RUINING THEIR LIVES ARE NOT AS POWERFUL AS THAT PAIN DISAPPEARING. ALMOST ALL THEIR ROLE MODELS, ADULTS AND PEERS, PARENTS AND PERSONAL FRIENDS, TV AND MOVIE STARS, EXEMPLIFY BY THEIR BEHAVIOR A QUICK-FIX SOCIETY (THINK OF ASPIRIN ADS, FOR EXAMPLE). THE POWER OF EXAMPLE WILL DEFEAT RHETORIC EVERY TIME, ESPECIALLY WITH CHILDREN.

WHEN OUR CHILDREN EXPERIENCE THIS PAIN (AND IT IS OFTEN VERY WELL-HIDDEN), WE MUST BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY IT AND WE MUST KNOW HOW TO INTERVENE IN WHAT HAS BECOME A DESPERATE INNER STRUGGLE FOR THEM, ONE THEY ARE ILL-EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH. IN THE WHOLE HISTORY OF OUR WORLD, WE HAVE NOT DONE A GOOD JOB OF THIS.

THIS PROBLEM DID NOT DEVELOP OVERNIGHT, OR IN THE 1980S, OR THE '70S OR '60S, OR EVEN THIS CENTURY. IT IS NOT NEW. WHAT IS NEW IS THE WAY THE BARRIER FORMERLY PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN -- OUR FUTURE -- HAS DROPPED, AND THE WAY ALCOHOL AND DRUGS HAVE REACHED INTO EVER MORE SEGMENTS OF OUR DAILY LIFE. WHAT IS NEW IS THAT THE PROBLEM IS DEMANDING TO BE SOLVED, OR IT WILL CONTINUE TO TEAR US APART.

THE SOLUTION CAN THUS BE SEEN TO BE LONG-TERM -- HELPING THE YOUNGEST AMONG US. AND THE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM IS NOT MORE JOBS, OR MORE MONEY, OR MORE HOUSES, BUT GOES TO THE VERY HEART, THE FOUNDATION, OF ANY SOCIETY -- IN RECOGNIZING THAT THE ROLE WE HAVE ACCEPTED FOR MILLENNIA, THE ROLE OF DEVELOPING THE BRAINPOWER OF OUR YOUTH, IS NO LONGER BY ITSELF ENOUGH. WE CAN NO LONGER REGARD PRINCIPLES AND ETHICS AND EMOTIONAL VALUES AS SIMPLY OLD IDEAS AND THEORIES MOLDERING IN DUSTY TOMES.

OF THE FOUR ELEMENTS TO THE SOLUTION, ONLY ONE, PREVENTION, WORKS TO TURN THE PROBLEM AROUND. WE REPEAT: ENFORCEMENT CONTROLS THE PROBLEM WHILE WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM; ENFORCEMENT IS NOT DESIGNED TO SOLVE SOCIAL PROBLEMS -- OR IT WOULD NO LONGER BE, BY DEFINITION, ENFORCEMENT. TREATMENT MUST BE AVAILABLE IN A HUMANE SOCIETY, BUT WE CAN'T CHANGE CAUSES BY TREATING EFFECTS. INFORMATION PROGRAMS ARE NECESSARY TO KEEP US INFORMED, BUT EXPECTING THEM TO DO MORE THAN THAT CAN SOMETIMES LEAD TO EXACTLY OPPOSITE RESULTS FROM WHAT WE WANT.

LET US MAKE A BOLD STATEMENT: FREEMASONRY'S PROGRAM, "MASONIC MODEL" STUDENT ASSISTANCE TRAINING, IS THE BEST PREVENTION PROGRAM AVAILABLE. IT IS NOT A QUICK-FIX. WHAT RECOMMENDS IT MOST STRONGLY IS THAT, UNLIKE THE FOREGOING APPROACHES, IT WORKS. IT SYSTEMATICALLY PUTS CARING ADULTS TOGETHER WITH CHILDREN IN PAIN. NO ONE ATTENDING THE TRAINING HAS FAILED TO COME AWAY WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY HAVE SEEN THE SOLUTION IN ACTION.

THE SOLUTION EXISTS. IT IS NOT A QUICK FIX. IT IS LONG TERM. BUT SUPPORTING IT WILL BEGIN NOW TO TURN THIS PROBLEM AROUND -- AND THE BENEFITS TO US OF SOLVING THIS PROBLEM GO FAR, FAR BEYOND THE SUBJECT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS. IN PURSUING THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AMONG CHILDREN WE ARE, AT THE SAME TIME, PURSUING THE SOLUTION TO MOST OF THE ACCIDENT AND ILLNESS NOW AFFLICTING OUR SOCIETY.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Chisholm.

The final person to testify today is Dennis Windscheffel, and although he does not represent any one volunteer organization, he has been very instrumental in coordinating many volunteer organizations, up to 60 million, representing 60 million Americans who belong to those organizations. So we appreciate your work and ask for your testimony.

Mr. WINDSCHEFFEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think before I begin my testimony, I feel I should give some thanks back both to the chairman, especially, and Bobby Charles to your side, because we need more Bobby Charleses to make things happen back here, especially with the Congress. I appreciate his effort and his staff in allowing these great organizations to have the opportunity to tell their story.

Mr. HASTERT. You have found out that the staff makes the place run. [Laughter.]

Mr. WINDSCHEFFEL. I am a member of Lions Clubs International, so I should give them credit, but I was also an Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America, so I am proud of that fact, too.

As you are aware, I have been asked to give the concluding summary testimony at this hearing because of my vast experience in not only working with these organizations, but also because of my experience in the drug-prevention field over the years.

This subcommittee has heard today from representatives from a cross-section of leading volunteer-based organizations. You have learned about valuable, prevention-based, program services offered to help young people lead drug-free, responsible, caring, and productive life styles. These leading volunteer organizations have a long history of addressing many social challenges. Through a combined membership of over 50 million American adults and youth—again, 50 million American adults and youth—approximately 60 percent of the population of the United States of America, they do represent the largest, combined, volunteer base in this country. They also represent the largest, combined movement in drug prevention in the country.

Their commitment to help address problems facing your young people has always been a major part of their mission. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to help plan numerous prevention-based programs designed to positively impact the lives of young people.

I have had the unique opportunity on two occasions to plan summit meetings discussing important youth issues, bringing together the leadership of several of our Nation's leading civic and youth-serving organizations. As I have traveled across America, implementing various prevention-based programs, I have always emphasized the importance of how these outstanding organizations are playing a significant role in the battle against drugs.

My discussion in regard to the value of these organizations has included a presentation to various Federal agencies. I have seen many Federal initiatives which could have been dramatically enhanced if the civic volunteer and youth-serving organizations were involved. But unfortunately, too often, many of these Federal agencies have been conditioned to focus on working with their own grantees and not with outside organizations.

I bring this point up because it has become apparent and mentioned over and over again today that the Government alone cannot resolve the drug problems and other concerns facing our young people. If we are to have a real chance to control the problems related to drugs, then there must be a major force to help facilitate collaborative actions among various nongovernmental stakeholders, along with Federal Government programs.

To have a major impact on controlling drugs, we must focus more on strategies that address the process of how we do things. We need to address real problems facing our young people in a holistic approach, realizing that there is common ground to resolve any anti-social behavioral symptoms. With limited time and community resources, an effective approach is to encourage local communities to form a community, rather to form a centralized, prevention-based coalition consisting of stakeholder organizations rather than a coalition for each behavioral problem addressed.

To further involve the American public in our drug-prevention efforts, we need to expand our definition of what drug prevention is. Too often it is perceived too narrow and very limited for the average citizen to visualize how he or she can assist.

By expanding the parameters of the definition of prevention, basic, fundamental principles which we know positively impact the lives of young people, citizens can better realize that there are important roles that everyone can play. Involvement in these roles can do more good if accomplished on a national level than ever could be accomplished with limited Government funding.

The organizations here today have the ability within this network to carry this message out in communities all across America. The uncontrolled usage of drugs as recreational or as addictive can seriously impact our country. Most alarming of all is that too many young people today do not see the harm and are willing to experiment with various types of drugs with little or no peer pressure put on them at all.

The result is an alarming increase in the number of young people involved with drugs which has never been experienced at this level.

If this is not bad enough, we are now facing a new crisis: a revitalized, drug-legalization movement across this country. The rationale for this movement is based on the argument that certain drugs now classified as illegal should be allowed because of possible medical benefits. Coming from California, I have seen first hand how legalization organizers have been able to mislead the public, resulting in the approval of Proposition 215.

This initiative is so loosely written and if spread across the country, this movement could put us back at ground zero in our drug control and prevention efforts. If we do not act quickly and effectively, uncontrolled involvement in drugs has the potential to seriously impact all major national issues. This includes seriously impacting our national economy, the Federal budget, health care, education, and most importantly, the very fiber of the society holding this great country together.

At this time, I would like to present a few strategies very quickly, because I see my time is out. Basically, they are some of the ideas I have talked to Bobby Charles about, and they have to do with some structural changes with ONDCP.

Mr. HASTERT. If you could, could you just submit them in writing into the record. We have a series of votes coming.

Mr. WINDSCHEFFEL. Oh, OK.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Windscheffel follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF DENNIS WINDSCHEFFEL, DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAM CONSULTANT

On behalf of the outstanding organizations here today, I wish to thank the House Subcommittee on National Security for providing the opportunity to testify. This subcommittee has heard from representatives from a cross section of leading volunteer-based organizations representing major service clubs, fraternal, veteran's organizations, a women's and business organization, and from a leading youth serving agency. Testimony today has included a brief history of the organizations and an overview of the significant roles they play related to the war on drugs. You have heard about prevention-based program services offered to help young people lead drug-free, responsible, caring, and productive lifestyles. Some have shared ideas to enhance prevention activities. Included in my summary remarks are recommended strategies to improve our nation's overall prevention efforts as well as participation by major civic volunteer organizations.

These leading volunteer organizations have a long history of addressing many social challenges facing this nation. Through a combined membership of over 50 million American adults and youth, these organizations collaboratively represent the largest combined organized group of volunteers providing resources to communities. There members collectively belong to hundreds of thousands of local community affiliated chapters serving communities all across this country. Not only do members of these organizations provide volunteer service but most pay membership dues to belong to their respective organizations. Their members meet socially and in service on a regular bases. These organizations provide various types of leadership training and provide communication networks so every member within their organizations can be kept abreast about what is happening.

Local affiliate chapters raise funds through various types of activities which are put directly back dollar for dollar into the communities addressing needs. There is no overhead and no profit taken. Their organized structures at both the top and local community levels play a big part for there long time existence and significant accomplishments. Their commitments to help address problems facing our young people has always been a major part of their missions.

I am here today because of a personal decision I made approximately 15 years ago. It was one of the most important and rewarding decisions of my life. In 1982, I was serving as the club president of the local Lions Club serving the community where I resided and had a business. During my year as club president our organization made a long-term commitment to emphasis the importance of our association and local clubs do what they can to address drug related problems. This commitment was made by Lions Clubs International because of the seriousness of the problem not only facing our nation but also because of the dangerous and real threat it presented to countries all around the world. During my year as club president, I was able to have my club sponsor prevention educational program materials I designed for young children to be placed in a few elementary schools. As this program grew other service clubs and fraternal organizations helped sponsor these materials. This joint sponsorship allowed all elementary schools in the entire school district to present educational materials to help children understand the importance of non-drug involvement.

As my personal desire grew to do what I could in the crusade against drugs, I made the decision to leave the business world and dedicate both my professional services as well as much of my volunteer time in this most important endeavor. Since that time, I have had the opportunity to help plan numerous prevention-based strategies, programs, and other services designed to positively impact the lives of young people. I have designed and administered several prevention-based federally funded programs. These programs have been funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Drug Enforcement Administration, ACTION, and by the Corporation for National Service. I have had the unique opportunity on two occasions to plan summit meetings, bringing together the leadership of several of our nation's leading civic and youth serving volunteer-based organizations. One of the main purposes of these summit meetings was to focus around drug prevention issues related to young people. In planning this most important hearing today, I was given the opportunity to assist staff in the recruitment of organizations which have testified.

As I have traveled across America implementing various prevention-based programs for young people, I have always emphasized the importance of how many leading civic and youth serving volunteer organizations are playing a significant role in the battle against drugs. Because of my personal knowledge of their abilities and desires, I also have stressed that there is much more that these great organizations can and would do to help address concerns facing our young people, if only there was a more organized structure to facilitate such action.

My discussions in regards to the value of the civic and youth serving volunteer organizations over the years has included presentations to various federal agencies with drug prevention responsibilities. I have seen many federal initiatives which could have been dramatically enhanced if the civic volunteer and youth serving organizations were involved. But unfortunately, too often many of these federal agencies have been conditioned to focus on working with their own grantees and not with outside organizations. I have even heard the excuse that building such a partnership is not in their Congressional mandate. It has been very frustrating to understand why there has been little effort to attract the involvement of our volunteer civic organizations when they have so much to offer.

I bring this point up because it has become apparent that the government alone cannot resolve the drug problem and other concerns facing our young people. Even with all the grant programs funded across this nation over the years, there will not be a national triumph unless cost-effective resources within communities are more effectively utilized. If we are to have a real chance to control the drug problem then there must be a major effort to help facilitate collaborative actions among various key non-governmental stakeholders along with federal government programs.

Since 1985 large sums of federal funds have become available for grant programs to address the drug problems. In most cases these funds have not been evenly distributed across this country with the exception of drug-free school state block grant funds which are distributed to requesting school districts. Many geographic areas have been able to successfully receive several grants while other areas around the country have received little or nothing. I which I could say that the funds that Congress provides always goes to the most needed communities, but often those community areas with the best success are politically correct or have the best grant writers.

To have a major impact to control drugs we must focus more on strategies that address the process of how we do things. We must employ many more approaches providing prevention opportunities for every community across this country. This includes an awareness campaign at the national level which stimulates the involvement of the American public in our prevention efforts. We need to address real problems facing our young people in a holistic approach, realizing that there is common ground to resolve many antisocial behavioral symptoms including gang, violence, crime activity, teenage pregnancy, dropping out of school, etc. With limited time and community resources, a more effective approach is to encourage our local communities across the country to form a centralized prevention-based coalition consisting of stakeholder organizations rather than a coalition for each behavioral problem addressed.

To further involve the American public in our drug prevention efforts we need to expand our definition of what prevention is. Too often it is perceived to narrow and very limited for the average citizen to visualize how he or she can assist. Too many Americans see our prevention efforts as highly specialized and something which only law enforcement officers or other professionals in the field can provide. By placing the word drug before prevention we make it sound as if it has to be treated differently than other prevention efforts for young people at risk. Involvement in drugs needs to be thought as a symptom or outcome of real problems facing our young people.

By expanding the perimeters of the definition of prevention to basics, citizens across this country can better realize that there are important roles that everyone can play. We need to emphasize to a greater degree the importance of good parenting, having the family attend church services, supporting positive youth activities in the communities, provide service opportunities for young people, and we can go on and on with sound fundamental principles which we know make a real difference in the lives of young people. Involvement in these roles can do more good if accomplished on a national level than ever could be accomplished with limited governmental funding. The organizations here today have the ability and tremendous network to carry this message out and to make these activities happen in communities all across America!

I wish at this time to share a few other personal observations based on my years of experiences as it relates to our nation's efforts to address the drug problem, especially as it relates to helping our young people. First of all, I want to make it per-

fectly clear to the members of this subcommittee and to the panel representatives here today, that the problems related to illegal drugs (including alcohol for youth) has been and still are the greatest threat facing our country and world today. This statement is even more magnified if we confined the problems to our young people.

I know that there is much discussion now in Congress and in the White House on balancing the budget, protecting social security, welfare reform, and the cost of Medicare. Not resolving these issues can have a dramatic impact on the future of this country down the road, and workable bipartisan solutions must be found. With the same vigor as these issues we must as a nation unite to seriously address our most present danger to our country and most importantly to our young people, our future!

The uncontrolled usage of drugs as either recreational or as additive can seriously impact our country and world in many ways. The relationship between drugs and crime is significant with our prisons overcrowded with criminals with some type of drug involvement. Gang activity related to drugs is a concern facing many communities today resulting in citizens and young people living in fear. Emergency rooms in hospitals are often bombarded with overdosing cases related to drugs. And most alarming of all, too many young people today do not see the harm and are willing to experiment with various types of drugs with little or no peer pressure put on them. The result is an alarming increase in the number of young people involved in drugs which has never been experienced at this level.

If this is not bad enough, we now face a new crisis, a revitalized drug legalization movement across this country. The rationale for this movement is based on the argument that certain drugs now classified as illegal should be allowed because of possible "medical" benefits. Coming from California, I have seen first hand how legalization organizers have been able to mislead the public resulting in the approval of Proposition 215. This initiative is so loosely written that if spread across the country this movement could put us back to ground zero in our drug control and prevention efforts. Drug legalization activists have been able to successfully with a minimum of dollars compared to the billions of dollars provided over the years to address the drug problem, create a national debate on the value of certain illicit drugs and our present drug control policies.

I know that Director Barry McCaffrey from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) is a very dedicated and capable individual who is a personally commitment to defeat this current legalization movement. This subcommittee though needs to understand that no one man or agency can do everything that is needed to effectively control and diffuse what should be a real and alarming concern facing this nation. Both the propositions in California and Arizona prevailed because the winning side was organized and the losing side was not prepared. With the present movement of many more states now considering similar initiatives, we must now view this as a national threat which needs to be addressed by all three federal branches of government. If we do not act quickly and effectively, uncontrolled involvement in drugs has the potential to serious impact all major national issues being addressed by this Congress and the White House. This includes seriously impacting our national economy, federal budget, health care, education, and most important the very moral fiber of our society holding this great country together.

As I try to assess where we are as a nation in our prevention efforts, I am reminded of a old television commercial showing a mechanic holding up a new oil filter and saying "Come in and see me now to have this inexpensive filter put in your car, or it will be very costly when I see you later to repair your engine." I wish that I could say that we had time to still change the filter as it relates to our drug crisis, but it is too late! We now need to do some major repairs by the best mechanics available to effectively address drug related problems facing this nation. We may even need to change some of the parts or even consider a major overall of the system!

Before I present some workable strategy ideas, my mission here today is not to put any blame on who is responsible for any past or lack of past actions. Even though we can learn by mistakes made in the past and need to take them into consideration, the important thing here today is to discuss what to do now and in the future. I will emphasis strategies that will utilize the resources of our nation's great civic volunteer and youth serving organizations to be pivotal in our nation's prevention efforts.

To develop sound prevention-based strategies there needs to be effective action plans to make sure they become realities. Strategies need to be based on concrete premises. Five important premises to base an aggressive and effective drug prevention movement in this country include:

1) The drug crisis is real and is one of the greatest threats now facing our nation and world today. We are now facing the battle of our lives and the immediate future

of this country. There is a crisis and the American public must be told the truth and become aware of the seriousness of the problem. We cannot avoid the problem, we cannot put it under the rug, we must educate our citizens and aggressively combat the problem with no further delays.

2) Communities who can develop active collaborative prevention movements within stand the best chance of effectively addressing concerns related to drugs as well as other social concerns. The role of federal government can best be served by providing seed funding for promising programs to help facilitate communities and organizations in initial prevention efforts but should not be there for developing long term dependent relationships. Communities organizations should be thanking the federal government for funds provided to start program services rather than complaining about more funds for continuing the programs.

3) To combat any aggressive drug legalization movement, the best defense are aggressive offensive tactics. Although challenges must be presented in opposition to the strengths of the legalization movements, major stress should be placed on approaches attacking the weakness of the legalization movements (i.e. in responding to Proposition 215 more emphasis needs to be placed on addressing such real concerns as no age limits for provided medical use, no control factors put in place for distribution of drugs to be used, no specific limitations as to what medical problems justify usage, mix messages given to young people, and reminder to public that marijuana has been proven to be harmful to the body and is one of the most common gateway drugs leading to the use of even more destructive drugs). Too much emphasis is now being placed on medical doctors debating with other medical doctors. It appears if we are falling into a trap set by the other side putting us in a no-win situation.

4) Studies have shown that one of the best forms of prevention for young people is to provide opportunities in service to others. This can help young people socially bond with school, community and family, developing a real sense of self-worth and responsibility.

5) Promising prevention programs must be sustained on an ongoing bases by local communities to keep drug related problems under control. Efforts should be directed by a prevention-based coalition consisting of representatives from key stakeholders.

At this time, I will present a few strategies for federal government consideration designed to enhance and improve current approaches and prevention-based participation, as well as counter the present drug legalization movement. Strategies presented take into consideration one or more of the five premises mentioned above.

RECOMMENDATION ONE

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) under the leadership of the Director should establish a management level task force consisting of well qualified non-federal governmental experts representing each of critical identified stakeholder areas (i.e. law enforcement, education, entertainment field, religious institutions, community coalitions, civic and youth serving volunteer organizations). Selected individuals should represent outstanding prevention leaders in their field, highly respected by their peers, and capable of securing vast non-governmental resources contributed at the local community levels by stakeholders they represent. The organization of this management team could bring together leaders in each of their respective fields to plan and put into place the most effective action plan to carry out proposed strategies. Joint meetings could take place, allowing task force members to coordinate collaborative initiatives between the various stakeholder areas as well as with involved federal agencies.

The time it would take for any Director of ONDCP, no matter who he or she is, to learn all that is needed is time we now cannot afford. The current system provides for ONDCP staff (although qualified in some areas) who may not be in the best position to most effectively move entire key stakeholders at a national level. I am fully aware that experts in various fields provide advisement to ONDCP staff, but what is recommended is not the same. There is a big difference in the approaches! Advisors advice and that is the extend of their services. What is recommended here provides for experts who are in a better position to actually produce results and be accountable for what is achieved. These dedicated individuals do not just sit in Washington, D.C. but would travel around the country putting forces together in a common effort to achieve objectives related to the five goals presently outlined in our national drug control strategy. Instead of relying on just advice we are utilizing experts in each of the critical fields to facilitate the greatest impact. Funds needed to form this management team of experts can be taken from the $60 million provided by Congress to ONDCP to enhance the performance level of the agency.

RECOMMENDATION TWO

An united national campaign must be conducted immediately by each of the identified stakeholder areas under the direction of ONDCP. This campaign needs to alert communities all across America of the seriousness of the drug problems (including current drug legalization movement), and about promising strategies and programs to implement to combat the problems. Leaders of Congress and the President of the United States should address the American public specifically in regards to the drug issue. There needs to be a strong message sent across this country that we now face a crisis.

RECOMMENDATION THREE

To help spread resources evenly across the country, tax incentive legislation should be put into law that help stimulate prevention efforts in communities. Tax incentives could include tax credits or deductions for contributions provided for prevention programs impacting young people. In addition, deductions should be considered for businesses and corporations sponsoring employees and management into civic volunteer organizations. Donations to civic volunteer organizations for prevention efforts should be allowed for tax deduction purposes. Offsets for these incentives can be based on earning your tax relief rather than just providing tax cuts giving tax breaks across the board. Restrictions could be placed on qualifying for tax incentives at the state level (i.e. such as need to in compliance with federal drug laws), and at the community level (i.e. such as need to have certified community-based prevention coalition in place).

RECOMMENDATION FOUR

Federal funding for drug related programs (including state block grant funds) should be allocated to only states and organizations within these states in full accordance of federal drug related laws. Any state not in accordance (i.e. California and Arizona) may have up to 18 months to be in accordance to federal drug related laws. This includes laws pertaining to FDA requirements dealing with approved drugs for medical purposes. An example of this type of legislation may be compared to legislation providing federal funds for highway improvement. Legislation should be considered immediately and attached to the 1997 drug bill so states get the message before upcoming public votes on proposed "drug use for medical purpose" initiatives.

To protect our young people, its time for the White House and Congress to work together to get tough and to send a strong message. The proposed legislation will send a much stronger message then federal action taken so far. It would help attract more citizens and voters involved in our defense than by threatening to take the licenses away from doctors for prescribing illegal drugs for patients. School districts (including parents of students), state and county agencies, concerned civic organizations and other significant groups will join the cause to defeat any type of state laws that could jeopardize future federal governmental funding for programs combating drug related concerns.

RECOMMENDATION FIVE

A forum should be sponsored by ONDCP or other designated federal agency whereby key representatives from leading civic and youth serving volunteer organizations can jointly meet either annually or biannually. At this forum selected federal agencies (i.e. ONDCP, U.S. Department of Education, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, DEA, Corporation for National Service) could present current promising research findings in area of prevention. Governmental prevention initiatives could be presented which can be enhanced by involvement of civic and youth serving organizations. Action plans can be discussed at these forums. This could also provides opportunity for leaders of Congress and Administration to address key representatives of major civic and youth serving organizations in a single setting. Follow-up communication needs to be established (i.e. computer networking) so civic and youth serving organizations are aware of most current promising strategies and programs available to share with local affiliated chapters across this country. ONDCP should in cooperation with other agencies put together a series of video programs covering various drug prevention issues with master tapes provided to headquarters of civic and youth serving volunteer organizations for distributed to local affiliates for viewing.

RECOMMENDATION SIX

Emphasis should be given on providing federal grants to provide "seed" funds to help initiate program services at the community level. Special development grants should be provided to major youth serving organizations. These organizations have the capacity to develop promising prevention program services that can be duplicated and distributed with non-governmental sponsorship funds to a vast number of affiliated chapters nationally.

In reference to the proposed Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997, special funding consideration should be given to the 100 cities (many representing the largest cities across this country) participating in the upcoming April Presidents' Summit for America's Future. The formation of a community-based prevention coalition could be easily incorporated in what selected teams of leaders from these invited cities will be charged to do as an outcome of the summit meeting. An in-service workshop about the Drug-Free Communities Act should be presented at the summit meeting covering the requirements for grants, as well as effective steps in the formation of a prevention-based coalition addressing youth concerns (including drug prevention efforts). Why not build upon a national movement with vast resources all ready being invested for the best effective results.

I will now present recommendations and some examples related to actions which can be taken by our nation's leading civic and youth serving volunteer organizations to help make a significant difference in controlling our nation's drug problems. These recommendations include:

1) Providing their vast communication channels (i.e. magazines, newsletters, web pages, conventions, forums) to carry important awareness messages out to millions of members and families across the country. These messages should include presentations by their own international or national leaders, the President of the United States, leaders of Congress, the Director of ONDCP, and other national figures.

2) Distribution of prepared video programs explaining and illustrating national drug control strategy plan, counter activities for drug legalization movement, and importance of immediate involvement to help young people lead drug-free and responsible lifestyles. Video programs to be provided to local chapters across the country for viewing by members at chapter meetings and by other citizens at civic organization sponsored events.

3) Sponsorship of national, state, and community prevention service recognition awards, honoring organizations and individuals providing outstanding service to help young people stay drug-free. This includes the sponsorship of a national youth award promoted by major youth serving organizations across the country.

An example of a partnership with the federal government in this area is the recent commitment by several of the leading civic volunteer organizations to sponsor national service scholars. Sponsoring civic volunteer organization chapters will put up a minimum of $500 to honor outstanding high school students providing service to their community. This scholarship will be matched by $500 provided by the Corporation for National Service. I predict that in just two years a significant number of local chapters of our leading civic volunteer organizations will make it possible for every high school in the country to honor a national service scholar.

4) Organization headquarters to serve as clearinghouse for local chapters advising of most promising programs to invest time and funds resulting in significant results. Encouragement given by leaders to start or belong to local prevention-based coalitions in communities served.

5) Support of selection representative(s) to attend annual or biannual ONDCP meeting, and as available panel member(s) for presentations at invited events (i.e. CADCA, PRIDE conferences, Congressional hearings).

6) Sponsorship and involvement of summit meetings bringing together respective leadership for planning of collaborative efforts related to youth issues of concern.

7) Major emphasis placed on sponsoring positive activities for young people, junior service clubs (i.e. Key, Leo Clubs), and joint-community service projects with youth. With the vast number of local chapters, civic and youth serving volunteer organizations are in an ideal position in collaboration with school districts to provide or sponsor a variety service opportunities for high schools students in the community who could be given credits towards their graduation.

8) Developing new promising prevention-based programs and services based on current research findings. These programs and services to be made available to local affiliated chapters to share with local communities. In addition, at the international or national levels open communication (i.e. computer networking) should be established so organizations can share information to local chapters and to one another at national or international levels.

What has been recommended today can potentially stimulate and impact millions of people not only in this country but in many other countries as well. Just think what could be accomplished if this type of movement available through our civic volunteer organizations can also be generated by several of the other key stakeholder areas as well. It is possible to achieve this goal if we were more organized at the federal government level as recommended.

As you are aware, since the conception of the ONDCP there has been a series of reports published outlining the national drug control strategy. Federal agencies are given direction as to roles they should play to carry out these strategies. In these reports there is mention about the importance of the involvement of various non-governmental organizations to take an active role to help local communities in the battle against drugs. Yes, there is even mention of the general role of the civic volunteer organizations. With all this great planning why do we still find ourselves in the predicament we now face as it relates to drug control issues?

I know that our current ONDCP Director, General Barry McCaffrey, has stated on several occasions that we have dropped the ball! The key word in his statement is we. With the word we comes responsibility. During this decade an event happened in another part of the world which brought together the historical formation of powerful forces to combat the invasion of one country into another, the invasion of the very small country of Kuwait by Iraq. Why did this happen? The stakes were high including possible control of a significant portion of the world's oil supply. One after another, nations joined the efforts of the United States to form one of the largest and most powerful coalitions every formed in modern times. How were we so successful to defeat the enemy? We gathered the forces around the world, brought in the best military leaders to plan the attack, and utilized their services to take shift action to carry out the plan. We utilized are best air attack forces and weapons to reduce enemy resistance for our ground forces. We then had our ground forces marched into Kuwait with the best military equipment available to drive the enemy forces out with minimum losses.

There was another important factor though which dramatically helped our forces triumph to victory in this Middle East crisis. This factor often overlooked was one of the most powerful in the results obtained. Our military forces left this country with the understanding that the American public was fully supportive of what they were doing. It was right and just!

With the success we experienced from this historical event, what lessons could be learned from Operation Dessert Storm to help us with what we are now facing as it relates to the drug crisis? First of all, we must as a nation understand that there is an ongoing invasion on our own soil. Utilizing illegal drugs as the weapons, the enemy is spreading across the country. The enemy ground troops have arrived in two of our states (California and Arizona) and are marching to advance to many other states. Unlike, Dessert Storm, the allies and the enemy are in most cases ourselves making it much more difficult to recognize and defeat. The longer we take to react the more we allow the enemy to set dig deep trenches. How important are the stakes this time? Is the deterioration of the future of our young people and this country high enough? I believe so, and so do the millions of Americans represented by these most important civic and youth serving volunteer organizations here today.

To succeed, the we which General McCaffrey talks about must include all involved. We triumphed in Dessert Storm because we all supported the effort, it was right and just. We now need to do what has not been accomplished so far in our nation's efforts to rid the vast destruction caused by illegal drugs. Bring the best leaders together to plan and lead the various stakeholder forces that we have in this country to help rid our nation of deadly and destructive drugs. We must unite the American public in this cause so when our Drug Enforcement Agents, and police officers put their lives on the line to combat the supply and use of drugs they know that they have the support and commitment of the citizens they serve. This same level of citizen support needs to be given to all those in the community who dedicate their volunteer and professional time in the trenches trying their best to help turn the drug crisis around. We must now put everything on the table, select the best approaches, and most importantly take shift and effective action. This includes bold and courageous steps against the present and future drug legalization movements. We must do this so those now in the prevention and treatment fields to help our young people do not feel deserted.

I and the organizations represented here today have not come here to testify because we feel that we cannot overcome the drug crisis. In fact, we are here because we believe that this country has the forces to soundly put our drug problems under control. I know that there are millions of Americans represented here today that are willing to help. They come with their hands out not asking for federal funds but to grasp your hands in partnership to save our young people and this country from

destruction. The most important role that our government can play in the "war on drugs" may not be the ability to provide funding for a limited number of programs. It will be to help facilitate a real, meaningful and powerful national movement stimulating the involvement of the American public in communities all across this country. We must work together to employ strategies so that the we can be expanded to allow every citizen the opportunity to provide their support and commitment.

I know that the 105th Congress will pass legislation on very important issues impacting our country. The most important accomplishment that this Congress can achieved is to bring about the necessary changes and direction in our nation's efforts to help our youth in their quest to become drug-free, caring and responsible citizens. No greater challenge and responsibility do we all have for the sake of this nation and the future of this world.

It has been a honor to be here among representatives from several of our great volunteer organizations who serve this country so well. It is also been a privilege to testify to the Congressional members of this subcommittee who I know have a deep concern and conviction about the future of our young people. I know that you have been enlighten as I have been and share the vision how our outstanding volunteer-based organizations serving our nation are and can be even more essential and powerful partners in mutual efforts to help young people face serious challenges. The roles that that the leading civic volunteer organizations can play in our nation's prevention efforts are paramount! They have the combined vast forces with over 50 million members, hundreds of thousands of local chapters and millions of dollars of resources raised at the local community levels to set the example for others. This includes supporting community-based prevention coalitions, sustaining prevention activities, defeating drug legalization movements, and to help lead the country to victory over the "war on drugs."

As previously mentioned, fifteen years ago, I had the support of local chapters of many of the civic organizations here today. With the support of their local chapters we made a difference in my community. I now sit before you with the support of international or national leaders of many of these same organizations fully capable of making a significant difference helping young people avoid drugs in communities all across America.

I leave you with the thought that we must all come to the realization that it is time to move forward, making necessary modifications to improve our approaches, and employ measures which can move this country in unity, setting a course of action to do what is right and just. If we are really serious about making a significant impact to help our young people lead a drug-free lifestyle and to become the "best they can be," we must act now! I will close with a profound statement I will never forget in reference to the war on drugs given by a most respected U.S. Senator, Alan Simpson, from Wyoming. He stated, "We need to do whatever it takes, and if we don't all we have to lose is our country." Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. I am going to have to leave here and break shortly. Because of that, I want to thank everybody, and especially you, Mr. Windscheffel, in doing the coordination. But each one of you brings a very valuable contribution to this—I call it a war; some people choose not to call it a war, but this effort to bring our youth involved in this in a first-hand way, so that they can actually be enabled to help others to have a sense of worth, to be part of this process of becoming an American and not falling on the wayside with the problems that are out there, drugs being the No. 1 thing.

I would ask that we leave the record open, if we could, because of our constraint of time, and we have a series of votes coming up here, that we could submit several questions to you and that you would respond to those questions. We would like to have all your information, the strategies included.

I would like to tell you one other thing. The Speaker called me this morning and wanted to be able to come and testify for a couple of minutes. You know that you have got his attention. He knows how important it is for our grassroots organizations, those people that are there involved with people day in and day out, those organizations are going out and reaching out to our kids, our children,

how important they are. Because of his constraints, he could not be here, but you have his attention.

I would also like to ask that all of you from time to time come back and testify and be a part of the strategy of working together.

So I appreciate everybody being here today, especially the great testimony of the witnesses that you have brought forth, and we certainly have had a very exceptional hearing. With that, I am going to say that this hearing of the Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice is adjourned. Thank you very much.

[Whereupon, at 12:05 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

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