



**TEXAS ALLIANCE
FOR DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN**

Rescue. Defend. Shelter. Support.

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TADEC INSIDER

Fall 2010



2010 National Conference a Rousing Success!

Due to its extensive statewide efforts to rescue, defend, shelter and support drug endangered children, Texas was selected to host the 2010 National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (NADEC) Conference. The Texas Alliance worked closely with the National Alliance to plan and execute the conference, which took place on November 9-11 in Dallas. The conference was attended by nearly 400 multidisciplinary professionals from across the country (and Canada) and featured nearly thirty workshop sessions, luncheons and plenary sessions.

Gil Kerlikowske, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, was the opening speaker. Chief David Brown of the Dallas Police Department also spoke. Both are pictured below with Lori Moriarty, Senior VP of NADEC, far right, and Alison Watros, Program Director of TADEC, far left.



Bi-Monthly Statewide Conference Call

As part of our continuing effort to encourage communication and the sharing of resources among local DEC alliances, TADEC has instituted a monthly conference call.

The monthly call will offer the opportunity for local DEC leaders to share challenges, ideas and insights from their own experiences. It will also allow local DEC alliances to stay apprised of any and all DEC-related developments on the state and national levels.

The next call is scheduled for **Thursday, November 30th at 10:00 AM.**

If you plan to be on the call, please e-mail to jmazzeo@dallascouncil.org to receive the call information.



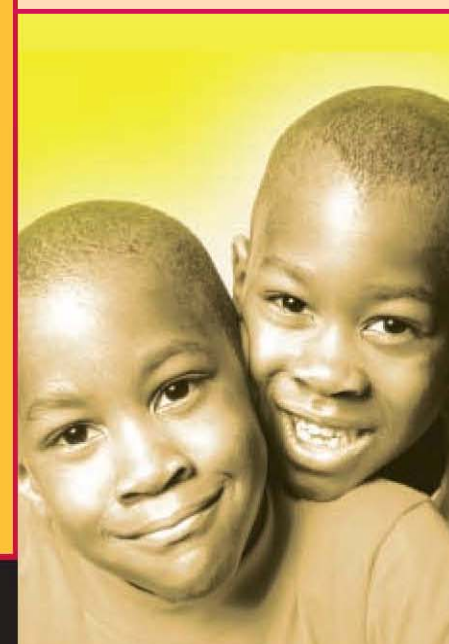
DEC Case Studies Still Needed

When it comes to the plight of Drug Endangered Children in Texas, nothing is more heart-wrenching than the multitude of individual stories we hear about, read about and experience on a daily basis.

These same stories are also among the most effective tools to educate a community on the dangers of drug environments and the importance of DEC alliances and multidisciplinary collaboration.

As such, TADEC is attempting to capture and archive as many of these individual case stories as possible to use as case studies in trainings, consultations and as a resource on the TADEC website.

To this end, we ask that you send any DEC-related news stories, reports and videos to jmazzeo@dallascouncil.org.



2010 National DEC Conference Highlights

Over the course of three days, there were many lasting memories of the 2010 Conference. One of the best, as any who attended can attest, was the children's choir "That's Entertainment!" from Rainbow Days, pictured below, which is a prevention organization in North Texas.

Other conference highlights include:

- Valerie Monroe, a drug endangered child herself who is in recovery and now works for Nexus Recovery Center, serving as the closing speaker for the conference.
- A presentation on the various ways school districts identify, impact, and intervene on behalf of drug endangered children conducted by representatives from Dallas ISD and Dallas ISD police department.
- And lots more!

Many thanks once again to all of you who attended!



Online Post-Collaboration Assessment Form

As anyone part of a local DEC alliance will attest to, one of the biggest challenges is data collection, or more simply, "how do we know if what we're doing is working?"

In order to curtail this problem, TADEC developed a simple one-page tool called the "Post-Collaboration Assessment," which collects basic non-identifying information about an incident and then feedback on the collaboration: positive, negative, and suggestions for change.

In attempt to make data collection even easier and quicker for DEC alliance members, we've developed an online means of submitting DEC case collaboration assessments. This data will be collected, analyzed and presented to the local alliance in whichever format is easiest for them. And the best part - no more forms lying around and no more filling out by hand! The link is included below.

<http://tinyurl.com/tadec-pca>

Trainings Available by Request

As always, we would like to remind you that trainings and technical support are available upon request.

Our most commonly-requested training is our General DEC awareness training. This training defines what Drug Endangered Children and volatile drug environments are, describes various drugs and paraphernalia and their various signs and symptoms, describes a basic law enforcement / CPS joint investigation and the difference in their roles, describes medical, prosecution, prevention and treatment considerations regarding Drug Endangered Children, and describes the psychosocial implications for Drug Endangered Children and strategies of dealing with children removed from Volatile Drug Environments.

We will tailor DEC trainings for your specific circumstances regardless of audience, time constraints, or the status of your local DEC alliance. From getting local leadership interested to training front-line workers to going through concrete steps to sustain an alliance, we are available to help you every step of the way as you build your local DEC alliance.