



## ***Did you know...***

***Meth affects everyone, not just the user. Here is one mother's story...***

My son, Kyle Holland, graduated from Wahkiakum High School in June 2000. While he was in high school he was involved with varsity sports, on the honor roll, was a member of FFA and a variety of other clubs. On his graduation night he received enough scholarship monies to pay for two full year's tuition of college. Kyle never used these scholarships. You see, Kyle became hooked on drugs his junior year of school. I didn't realize how severe it was. When Kyle was high on meth his senior year he committed a felony. A few months after graduation, Kyle was arrested for this crime and instead of going to college he went to prison for a year and half. Kyle also participated in two different rehab programs. I can't tell you the nightmare effects that drugs have on our lives. Not just the person using the drugs, but his parents, brother, sister, friends, teachers, etc. There were his mood swings, drop in grades...all signs, but I didn't realize at the time how severe the problem was. The countless nights of lying awake worrying who he was with and when he would be home; the nights spent driving the roads looking for him in the ditch. In July of 2003 Kyle told me he never ever wanted to use meth again, not just of what it did to him, but what it did to me, his mom. He was getting so strong and was doing so well, attending out-patient classes and appeared to be doing everything right. All this changed on September 15, 2003 when I came home for lunch and found him dead from an accidental drug overdose of methadone. My life and the lives of his family will never ever be the same. I will never see him get his college diploma, walk his bride down the aisle, or be a grandmother to his child. My family has been robbed because of drugs. If you suspect your child may be using drugs, I implore you to seek professional advice. If your child uses drugs, please remember that you are affected, too... Please, I don't want another family to have to see their child die.

Mom to Kyle...forever 21

*If you need confidential help, please call 795-8630*

*For more information go to: <http://www.atg.wa.gov/AlliedAgainstMeth/default.aspx>*

### **Wahkiakum Community Network**

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NEXT PUBLIC BOARD MEETING  
April 7, 2008 7:00 - 9:00 PM

River Street Meeting Room 42 River Street, Cathlamet

*Supporting community-based changes to improve the lives of children and families*