

# Drug Early Warning System

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*Working Together to Identify Emerging Drug Trends in Maryland*

*Distribution: 2,415*

## DEWS ALERT

### Carroll County Organization Releases Drug Prevention Education Video:



This 35-minute video tells the story of a boy “who in a single, impulsive wrong decision, demolishes his future and finally dies a squalid, awful death.” Based on a real life tragedy in Carroll County, this new video introduces the viewer to Jonathan, a 15-year-old from a “normal” middle class family. When he is introduced to heroin, his life begins a downward spiral into a world of crime and drugs that is every family’s worst nightmare.

This video was developed and produced by Residents Attacking Drugs (RAD), a local grassroots non-profit organization dedicated to public awareness and prevention of drug abuse. RAD was formed by Carroll County residents in 1998 in response to heroin overdoses and deaths in the county. “Heroin Kills” was originally created to be shown in 8th grade health classes in Carroll County and at anti-drug events to help prevent future drug abuse by vulnerable teens. However, since its premiere in Westminster earlier this year, interest in the video has spread well beyond Carroll County. Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Chair of the Cabinet Council on Criminal and Juvenile Justice which oversees the Heroin Action Plan, requested that the video be distributed to 140 HotSpot team members. Copies of the video also have been sold to police and youth organizations in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. In addition, federal drug abuse prevention officials have expressed an interest in making the video available nationwide.

“Heroin Kills” can be viewed for personal interest on line at [www.cesar.umd.edu/DEWS.htm](http://www.cesar.umd.edu/DEWS.htm). Original copies of the video may be purchased by sending \$12.00 (\$10 for the tape plus \$2.00 shipping and handling) to Residents Attacking Drugs (RAD), P.O. Box 188, Westminster, Maryland 21158. This video is the property of RAD and is intended for personal use only. No part of this video may be reproduced or transmitted without permission from the producer.

For more information about RAD or the video “Heroin Kills,” visit the RAD website at [www.heroinkills.com](http://www.heroinkills.com) or e-mail [warpspd@erols.com](mailto:warpspd@erols.com).

SOURCES: Residents Attacking Drugs (RAD), “Heroin Kills,” online at [www.heroinkills.com/](http://www.heroinkills.com/) (accessed 8/6/99) and personal communication, Linda Auerback, RAD, 8/24/99.