

Meth Project Foundation gets high Barron's rank

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The Meth Project Foundation has been ranked among the top foundations worldwide by Barron's Magazine.

Barron's and Global Philanthropy Group rated scores of philanthropists on such criteria as innovation, quality of alliances with other groups, the effects of their giving and the extent to which their projects can be replicated.

The Meth Project was ranked fifth for its results in alleviating the meth problem and replicating the program in seven states.

The Meth Project, based in California, and the Montana branch of it were founded by software billionaire and part-time Montana resident Thomas Siebel. The project uses a barrage of consumer research-based advertising to reduce use of the highly addictive drug.

It was implemented in Montana in 2005, when the state was ranked fifth in the country for meth abuse. Officials said meth use among adults dropped 72 percent and use among teens dropped 45 percent within two years of the Montana Meth Project's start.

The project has also been implemented in Arizona, Idaho, Illinois, Wyoming, Colorado and Hawaii.