



KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET
Department of Public Health Sciences
Division of Social Medicine



WHO COLLABORATING CENTRE
ON
COMMUNITY SAFETY PROMOTION

SAFE COMMUNITY WEEKLY NEWS

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***** LETTER FROM THE EDITOR*****

Welcome to the seventeenth issue of Safe Community Weekly News in 2005, the electronic Safe Community Weekly News is edited by the European Safe Community Network and the WHO CC on Community Safety Promotion on behalf of Safe Communities Network.

WHAT IS NEW AT SAFE COMMUNITIES?

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PRESENTATIONS: 14th International Conference on Safe Communities, Norway

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SAFE SCHOOLS: Woodend School Received Safe School Accreditation, Australia

CONFERENCE: The 6th Nordic Safe Community Conference, Karlstad, Sweden

CONFERENCE: 1st International Conference on Road Traffic Accidents, Iran

Safe Community Weekly News

Also is Bangla and French

Dear colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to announce the expanding of Safe Community Weekly News. Since the last week (issue No. 16) of 2005 we have started to edit the Safe Community Weekly News in 14 languages (Arabic, Bangla, Chinese, English, French, Greek, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Romanian, Serbian, Spanish, and Turkish)

In the last month colleagues from two different institutions in Bangladesh and Mauritius have joined our team to make the Safe Community Weekly News accessible to readers and members of the Safe Community networks around the world.

The new members are:



Shakeel Panchoo
Project Coordinator- Community
Safety Promotion.
Community Development
Programme Agency
(CODEPA)NGO
Tel:(230)795-0049
Fax: (230)210-6093
E-mail: shkpan@yahoo.com



Salim Mahmud Chowdhury,
Epidemiologist
Centre for Injury Prevention and Research,
Bangladesh (CIPRB)
Tel +880-2-8113658 / +880-189428758 (M)
Fax: +880-2-9569234
E-mail: smchow_dhaka@yahoo.com
chowdhury@ciprb.org

All the issues are available on our websites www.phs.ki.se/csp, www.safecommunity.net. Please feel free to download the files, circulate it and we are looking forward to hearing from you; comments, suggestions and corrections. Your contributions are highly appreciated and we would like to have more members in our team to make Safe Community Weekly News available in more languages.

Posters and Presentations from the 14SafeComm Conference

www.safecommunity.net

Presentations from the 14th International Conference on Safe Communities Conference are now available -- See the International Safe Community Network homepage www.safecommunity.net click on conferences. The event took place on June 13 -15, 2005 at the Grieghallen, Bergen, Norway.

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FIRST ANNOUNCEMENTS

2nd International Seminar on Injury Research Methods 6 - 7 April 2006

The European Consumer Safety Association (ECOSA) & the Medical Research Council are proud to announce the next international seminar on Injury Research Methods taking place in April 2006 in Cape Town, South Africa.

This seminar is being organised in conjunction with the 8th World Conference on Injury Control and Safety Promotion in Durban, South Africa (April 2-5, 2006)

Dates: 6th and 7th April, 2006

Place: Conference Centre, Medical Research Council (MRC) Cape Town, South Africa

About the Seminar

The aim of the seminar is to exchange knowledge and experiences on concepts and methods applied in injury research. The focus is on methodology instead of findings. Attention will be paid to measuring the economic costs of injuries, evidence based injury prevention, quantifying disabilities, translating the results of research into practice and data collection. The seminar should increase synergy between researchers in the field of injury prevention and safety promotion.

Who should attend:

All researchers (from resourced and less resourced areas) in the field of injury prevention and safety promotion, who are interested in the current state of affairs concerning methodology and future developments.

Abstracts

For each subject two keynote speakers will present their opinions, followed by short paper presentations (app. 10 minutes each). Closing date for abstracts for the short paper presentations is 1 December 2005.

For further information, please visit our website: www.mrc.ac.za/conference/ecosa/ or contact:

Events Co-ordinator
Nadine van Rensburg
Medical Research Council
P. O. Box 19070
Tygerberg
7505
Tel: +27 21 938 0880
Fax: +27 21 938 0395
E-mail: nadine.van.rensburg@mrc.ac.za

Handling all logistical queries
Saakje Mulder
Chair – Scientific Committee
Consumer Safety Institute
P O Box 75169, 1070 AD Amsterdam
Tel No: +31 20 511 4557
Fax No: +31 20 669 2831
Email: S.Mulder@consafe.nl

WHO Safe School Accreditation

By Tania Peters Strategic Advisor Safe Schools,
Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand, SCFNZ.



At a 'magnificent' celebration on the 11th August, Woodend School received formal accreditation as Australasia's first World Health Organisation (WHO) Safe School. Principal Graeme Barber says the night was an amazing experience, with around 1000 people attending - including all the students and their families, invited dignitaries and guests from around New Zealand.



The school's head boy, Matthew Price and head girl, Brittany Farrant, delivered a power point presentation, explaining the school's journey to accreditation. Each of the school's three syndicates presented safety items to the gathering.

"We had a lot of comments of how great it was to see the kids living and expressing the safety message we have adopted - and how emotionally secure and happy they seemed which is very important to us."

The Safe School concept is fostered and promoted by the WHO Safe Community Movement www.intlsafeschools.com The Peaceful Resources' Center is home to the International Safe Schools Programme. SCFNZ is the Safe Schools affiliate support centre and certifying authority for New Zealand and the wider Australian region. Dr Carolyn Coggan of SCFNZ led the formal accreditation ceremony, and was joined by speakers Mayor Jim Gerard, Waimakariri MP Clayton Cosgrove and ACC General Manager Darrin Goulding in congratulating Woodend School on their exceptional efforts.



Receiving of the accreditation certificate awarded by Dr Carolyn Coggan SCFNZ, August 11th 2005

Woodend School has had a remarkable turnaround from 2001 when the school embarked on its safety upgrade - after serious concerns were raised about the emotional and physical well being of its students. There were problems with children at risk crossing the Main North Road, being bullied by others, or in danger of being injured by unsafe playground equipment or behaviour.

Scenes from the accreditation event





"Both staff and parents were expressing concern, so we decided to develop a model that looked at both the emotional and physical safety of our students. We started by gathering data to identify the needs, and then talked to parents, staff and students to narrow down what the real issues were. We then started to methodically work our way through making changes," says Mr. Barber.

The school began working with a number of organisations with a focus around injury prevention, emotional safety, anti-bullying and road safety to develop an integrated approach to safety within the school. Pupils too were heavily involved in driving the changes. These included moving the designated safe crossing point, painting flush medians, cycle lanes and a no parking area. In the classroom, students set learning goals. They also designed a new playground and established rules for its use as well as doing playground duty to identify and reward safe play. As a result, rough play and unintentional injuries have been reduced by 50%.



With the help of SCFNZ, the school applied to the WHO International Safe Schools Network to become a WHO Safe School. Dr Carolyn Coggan director of SCFNZ says, "This school is an excellent example of how a community development approach within a school setting can improve safety for staff, students & the wider community. It is also important to recognise that the school is in one of New Zealand's WHO accredited safe communities, Waimakariri, and the local council deserves to be acknowledged for that".

"In their application Woodend School describes how over 19 programmes have resulted in improvements to the health & safety of students & staff. Woodend School has certainly raised the bar for schools world wide which are looking for WHO accreditation," she said.

Mr. Barber says. "Providing the best possible learning experience for every child in a safe physical and emotional environment was always the goal of the safety programme. The accolades the school has received following its achievements has been an 'amazing spin-off'. There is a real sense of participation, ownership and pride around learning with the safe environment that exists in and around the school. The school will continue its journey by regularly reviewing and improving all its policies, programmes and practices".

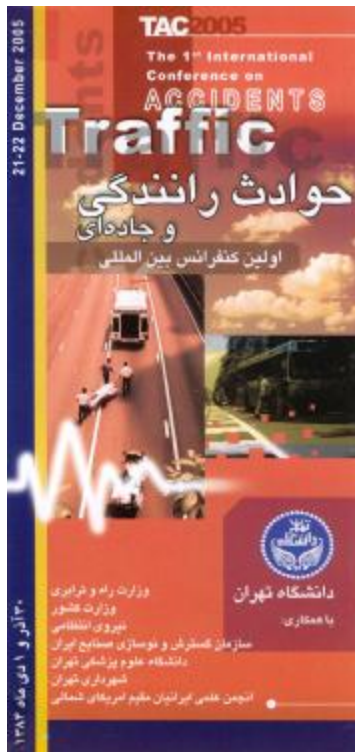




The 6th Nordic Safe Community Conference

Karlstad, Sweden,
9-11 November 2005

www.srv.se/nscc



First International Conference on Road Traffic Accident which will be held on 21-22 December at Tehran University campus for more information contact: Dr. AR Moghisi, amoghisi@mailcity.com or login to www.ut.ac.ir/tac2005

Please send your activities, programs and reports via post/ e-mail to the editor:

Yousif Rahim
European Safe Community Network
E-mail: yousif.rahim@phs.ki.se
<http://www.phs.kise/csp>
<http://www.safecommunity.net/>