



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 thirty-fifth issue of Safe Community Weekly News in 2004, the electronic Safe Community Weekly News is edited by the Norwegian Safety Promotion Centre- a WHO CC Affiliated Safe Community Support Centre on behalf of Safe Communities Network.

WHAT IS NEW AT SAFE COMMUNITIES?

In this issue:

SEMINAR: Safe Community Program in Alishan, Taiwan

FORUM: Safe Communities in Western Australia

PROGRAM: Collaboration and Visiting the Safety Programs in Ardabil province, Iran

Safe Community Seminar in Alishan



On 11th October 2004 the Safe Community Program in Alishan arranged a seminar on Safe Community program and activities in Alishan villages, the seminar held at the Chiayi Christian hospital in Chiayi County with participants from different parts of the county.



Mr Kuinan Huang, Vice Governor, Chiayi County, Mr. Yousif Rahim, Coordinator, Norwegian Safety Promotion Centre and Mr. Fusong Chong / Director, Alishan Scenery Office

Alishan Safe Community group

The Seminar attended by Vice Governor of Chiayi county mayor Mr. Kuinan Huang and Mr. Yousif Rahim, Coordinator of Norwegian Safety Promotion Centre, representatives from National Health Promotion office, Alishan villages, Chiayi hospital and Chiayi university.



At the end of the seminar Alishan safe community organisation presented a DVD in both Chinese and English language on current activities on safety promotion in Alishan area. For more information on Alishan Safe community Program, please contact the program coordinator, Mr. David Lin, e-mail, d052@cych.org.tw

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SAFE COMMUNITIES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Michael Bourne with Mike Wood, Community Development Officer, City of Armadale



One of the Working Groups at the forum

Although there is only one WHO Safe Community in Western Australia, there are many other community safety programs being undertaken. However, these programs generally focus on a single issue for example drowning or falls. There is also a strong focus on crime prevention and few that embrace community safety holistically.

The Injury Control Council of Western Australia (ICCWA) Inc. is working hard to encourage government and communities to adopt the WHO Safe Communities model. We are fortunate to have support from other states in Australia to progress the Safe Communities movement. In particular, Michael Bourne and Henk Harberts have made recent visits to Western Australia to share their knowledge and experiences at two forums: the Armadale Community Safety Planning Forum and the Local Government Community Safety Forum.

Armadale Community Safety Planning Forum

We are currently working closely with the City of Armadale to assist them to work towards the six WHO criteria. As part of this, we hosted the Armadale Community Safety Planning Forum. Michael Bourne, co-Chair of the Victorian Safe Communities Network, convened the forum. A wide range of representatives from within the injury prevention and community safety sector, crime prevention, health, education, emergency services and residents from the Armadale community gathered to discuss local community safety issues in the City of Armadale.

The Forum provided an opportunity to network and form new partnerships, share ideas, learn and debate with other members of the community. Some outcomes of the Forum were a list of priorities for the City of Armadale to consider when reviewing their Community Safety Plan and many participants identified an interest in being a member of a Safe Communities Coalition.



Henk Harberts, Sue Roberts and Chris Gillam



Sophie Rowell, Project Coordinator
ICCWA

Local Government Community Safety Forum

As part of our involvement in Community Safety Month, ICCWA hosted a Local Government Community Safety Forum. The Minister for Community Safety opened the forum and keynote speaker Henk Harberts, Manager Community Safety Promotion Latrobe City, presented on Latrobe City Safety Promotion. Other presentations included 'Injury in WA' by Chris Gillam, Injury Research Centre, University of Western Australia and 'Denmark Safe Communities' by Sue Roberts, Denmark Health Service.

Many local government representatives attended the forum and the feedback was very positive. Many local councils have now raised their interest in the WHO Safe Communities model as a way to tackle safety issues. Some of the comments from participants included:

“Thank you for the passion, you have inspired me!”

“Great forum to display to all levels of Local Government management that there is help out there to achieve results.”

Active Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion in the I.R. of IRAN Report from site visit in Ardabil province, 26-27 September 2004



A group photo in Meshkinshahr health center



A group of experts in Ardebil and Dr. Ekman

From 26-27 September 2004, Dr. Robert Ekman, Karolinska Institutet, Department of Public Health Sciences, Division of Social Medicine & Swedish Rescue Services Agency visited the Ardabil province, situated in the north west of I.R. of Iran.

The site visit started with a tour to the rural areas of Meshkinshahr district and the Health centre at Meshkinshahr. The delegation have met with the health professionals e.g. the local administrative medical officer, doctor, dental technician, doctor responsible for the pharmacy and the midwives. Representatives from Meshkinshahr informed that their intention is to set up a comprehensive Safe Community work based on the WHO's six indicators. The priority today is the Burn Prevention project. Information was given up on vital health statistics like accidents in the home, in traffic etc.

The delegation visited the local health house in Khabrez village and met with the community-health worker. The soul of the Islamic Republic of Iran's health-care system lies in its most peripheral facility – the “Health House” – which is run by community-health workers, known as “Behvarz”. The health workers are trained for two years, employing modern educational methods based on group discussions and role-playing exercises, and working in accordance with the specific Behvarz model. A complete file for every house in the village is performed. All types of health status are noted via a standardized form.



Dr. Mohammad Zadeh, Manager of health centers network of Meshkinshahr district and manager of executive committee.



Dr. Mohammad Zadeh (left) and Mr. Biriya are showing the home safety checklist at the health house

Pupils and teachers were demonstrated activities with school police and other injury prevention measures in Akbar Poor Garden School and Taleghani School respectively.

A session for joint research project was held at provincial health center 27 September 2004 and at this meeting the joint project with KI on "Injury prevention in Burns in Ardabil province" was presented.

The demonstrated many positive and well-planned injury preventive activities and good injury surveillance system within the health houses as Svanstrom (2003) stated in his first Report. This is a fruitful basic for future Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion (IP & SP) in local communities in Iran. The burn project is the second joint project between Iran and Sweden in the field of IP & SP. The main principal investigator in Iran is Dr. Arshi the chancellor of Ardebil University of Medical Sciences. Dr. Robert Ekman is the principal Swedish investigator and Dr. Reza Mohammadi is his colleague in this project.

The proposal has been sent to the Swedish International Development Agency and it is supposed to be approved by the end of the year 2004. The project was defined according to a community-based trial and now it is on initial phase and more have to be done when it comes to prevention and evaluation. The whole package was reviewed and in general seems to be promising. The aim in the long run is to extend the project to be a part of comprehensive Safe Community concept.

14th International
Conference
on
Safe Communities
June 13-15, 2005
Bergen, Norway



www.safebergen.com

Main theme

Violence Prevention in Creating Safe Communities

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