



KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET
Department of Public Health Sciences
Division of Social Medicine



**WHO COLLABORATING
CENTRE
ON
COMMUNITY SAFETY PROMOTION**

SAFE COMMUNITY WEEKLY NEWS

No. 39

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

Welcome to the thirty-ninth 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:

DESIGNATION: The Center for Injury Prevention and Community Safety Promotion, Ajou University School of Medicine, Korea

CONFERENCE: Community Safety Month 2004 and VSCN Conference, Australia

CONFERENCE: 2005 National Injury Prevention and Control Conference, USA

COURSE: 1st Int. Course on Research in Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion

Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre No. 14 designated



L to R: Dr Hugh Chul Kim, Vice President for Medical Affairs and President at Ajou University Medical Center, Professor Leif Svanström, Chair WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion and Dr Joon Pil Cho, Director, The Center for Injury Prevention and Community Safety Promotion, Ajou University School of Medicine

On the 15th November 2004 at Ajou University, Suwon, S Korea an agreement was signed between Ajou University and WHO CC in Stockholm establishing more formal links between the Safe Community Network and the Center for Injury Prevention and Community Safety Promotion - Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre No. 14 in the World.

More information about the Centre on www.phs.ki.se/csp

“At the Cutting Edge of Community Safety” Community Safety Month 2004 and VSCN Conference

The Victorian Safe Communities Network (VSCN), in partnership with the Department of Justice and many other agencies, local governments and business, proudly reports yet another very successful Community Safety Month during October 2004.

“There were thousands of people participating in hundreds of safety promotion events across all areas of Victoria”, said Michael Bourne, Co-Chair of the VSCN. “Because injuries can affect anyone, anywhere, anytime – our vision is for people to have the information they need to reduce risks and prevent injuries wherever they go in their daily lives.”

This year there were concurrent Community Safety Month activities in Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales as well as Victoria. “We are on the verge of a nation-wide community safety month in 2005, a concept which is being promoted through partnerships across the community networks and service agencies involved.”

Community Safety Month was no sooner over than the Victorian Safe Communities Network (VSCN) held its Second Annual Conference on Wednesday 17 November with the theme “At the Cutting Edge of Community Safety”. Over 150 registrants gathered at the Darebin Community Centre in Melbourne, Australia, to share a day of learning, with presentations by local, interstate and international speakers on community action to reduce risk and injury, improve safety and the perceptions of safety.



Some of the conference delegates at the VSCN 2nd Annual Conference,
Melbourne Australia, 17 November 2004.

A keynote address on the health and injury burden resulting from family violence set the theme for the day and underlined the need for a community approach to reducing intentional and unintentional injury.

There was plenty of options for participants with over 30 papers presented on the day on such topics as - sexual assault, safer built environments, capacity building in culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, perceptions of safety, emergency management, walking school bus, building corporate relationships, and integrated planning - to name only a few.

In closing the Conference, VSCN Co Chair, Michael Bourne said that the major “take aways” from the day related to: –

- **The importance of tackling violence in the home** - going beyond individual responses to specific incidents, to take a population wide or systemic approach to “breaking the cycles” that are causing death and injury from preventable situations – to work on the settings and the environment at the population level.
- **The need for a prevention culture** - our service systems are geared to respond to symptoms at an individual level after the injury event – bringing the tag “symptom society” as you have to

individually have the right symptoms before you can access defined services, and even then these may not provide the assistance really required to combat the root causes of injuries and harm

- **We can and must do more to reduce and manage community risk** – to alleviate the pressure inherent in some communities by working at a systemic level, across whole communities – **with national and state injury prevention plans to target the key causes of death and injury**
- **Community safety workers are not alone** – we may be in sole positions in our own area, but there is a network with lots of wide ranging experience – ask the people around you and use the VSCN list serve to get the information you need and find someone who can help out with your issue.
- **Build a local coalition of interested people** - it is through asking around that you will find other local people also concerned about safety issues – and from these contacts grows a local coalition ready to tackle the major community safety problems – that is the community safety approach in a nutshell – leveraging from each other to do more than any single agency or service can achieve alone.
- **When developing a community safety plan** there are a few key points to remember –
 - The overall community safety plan is not simply a collection of the items in each agency or service plan – but is aimed at the things that collectively will make the impact greater in each of these areas or to tackle some issues that are not on the plans of any agency or service
 - We need to use the data to identify 3 or 4 major issues – do not try to do it all at once
 - Endorsement of the plan usually means agreement to proceed but be careful whether it means that resources are also allocated – some times it will not and separate resourcing decisions will have to be made.

After the conference closed 80 participants and guests gathered outdoors in the late afternoon sun to share ideas over cocktails. The networking continued into the evening as we shared a meal and got to know each other better as friends as well as colleagues. And the night was well supported with music by local “band” REWIND bringing friends and guests alike to the dance floor.



Michael Bourne, Co Chair of the VSCN (far right) thanked the Conference Organising Committee – (from R to L) Ian Danahay, Tim Hardiman, Norm Free, Barbara Minuzzo, and Mark Hennessey, commenting that “they had done such a professional job that we are already keenly looking forward to our third annual conference in 2005.”

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Or go to the VSCN website www.vscn.org.au

2005 National Injury Prevention and Control Conference

Injury and Violence in America: Meeting Challenges, Sharing Solutions

May 9-11, 2005
Denver, Colorado, USA

Conference Overview

Injury and Violence in America: Meeting Challenges, Sharing Solutions
An interdisciplinary conference for the injury and violence prevention and control communities

Sponsored by:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)
National Association of Injury Control Research Centers (NAICRC)
State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association (STIPDA)

Addressing one of the most significant societal and public health issues of our day is hard work. Professionals like you have devoted many hours and great conviction to this calling. The successes we have shared in injury and violence prevention and control in our country are the culmination of your tremendous effort and immeasurable devotion. Our network spans many disciplines and professions, but it is connected with one common goal to reduce death, disability, and suffering from injury and violence in America. This conference was planned with you, the individual professional, in mind, knowing that in strengthening one, we strengthen the whole.

In this spirit of recognizing our many successes and meeting our common goals and common needs, we invite you to join us for this exciting national injury and violence prevention and control conference. The goals of this conference are:

- Highlight interdisciplinary research and solutions
- Provide participants an opportunity to increase their skills and knowledge, and leave each person with new tools to implement where they work
- Foster cross-fertilization and mobilization
- Create an opportunity for participants to discuss the future of injury and violence prevention and control in America

This is a very important time for our field. It is a time to build on current momentum, continue to leverage the visibility and merit that we have established for our cause, and take injury and violence prevention and control to even greater heights.

Call for Abstracts

The Planning Committee welcomes the submission of original research that addresses injury and violence prevention and control. Of particular interest are abstracts that address the latest research findings, program successes, lessons learned, or problems solved that consider the three phases of injury and violence prevention and control – prevention, acute care, and rehabilitation. Abstracts may be submitted for either oral or poster presentation.

Abstract submission for the 2005 Injury Prevention and Control Conference will be handled via the web. Electronic submission will provide a faster and more efficient submission and review process and will allow immediate electronic responses. **All abstracts must be submitted through the website at www.cdc.gov/ncipc/2005conference. Deadline for abstract submission is January 18, 2005.**

For more information, please go to www.cdc.gov/ncipc/2005conference for abstract submission and general conference information. For other questions, please call 770-488-4298.

**1st International Course - A Ph.D. Course
Research in Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion
17 January -18 February 2005
Stockholm, Sweden**

Application deadline: **December 1st, 2004**

[Course information:](#)

[http://www.phs.ki.se/csp/pdf/Research in Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion 2005 PhD Course.pdf](http://www.phs.ki.se/csp/pdf/Research%20in%20Injury%20Prevention%20&%20Safety%20Promotion%202005%20PhD%20Course.pdf)

[Application form:](#)

[http://www.phs.ki.se/csp/pdf/Application form PhD Course Safety Promotion 2005.pdf](http://www.phs.ki.se/csp/pdf/Application%20form%20PhD%20Course%20Safety%20Promotion%202005.pdf)

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**The 8th World Conference
on
Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion
Durban, South Africa
2nd to the 5th April 2006.
www.safety2006.info**

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



www.safebergen.com

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