

Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand

Certifying Centre for Safe Community Programs

On behalf of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion,
Department of Public Health Sciences Division of Social Medicine, Karolinska Institute, Sweden



foundation.nz

Safe Community Palmerston No. 133



Name of the Community: **Palmerston**

Country: **Australia**

Number of inhabitants: **28,848**

Programme started year: **2005**

International Safe Communities Network Membership: **Designation Year 2008**

Full application available: <http://www.safecommunities.org.nz/sc/pal>

For further information contact:

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The programme covers the following safety activities:

For the age group

Children 0 – 14:

- "Look at me"
- Car Restraint clinics
- Burns Awareness
- Fireworks Safety
- Water Safety
- Road Safety Awareness
- Walk Safely to School
- 'Wait a Minute Mate': Behaviour Control
- School Holiday Program
- Nursery Tales
- Tunes and Tales



Youth 15-24 years:

- Palmlesstonnes
- Car Restraint Fittings
- Handling Fire Works Safely
- 'Look at Me'
- Wait a Minute Minute: Say no to Bullying
- Youth Bazaar
- PARYS
- Seniors and Youth Intergenerational project
- Digital Literacy

Adults 25-64 years:

- Palmlesstonnes
- Home safety Expos
- Car Restraint Fittings
- Fireworks Safety
- 'Look at Me'
- 'Wait a Minute Mate': Say no to violence
- Digital Literacy

Older Adults 65+ years:

- Palmlesstonnes
- Make you Home Safe for Kids
- Motorised Scooter Safety
- Seniors Week
- Seniors and Youth Intergenerational project
- Digital Literacy



In the following Environments:

Home:

- Keep your home safe
- Animal Management
- Falls Prevention

- Home Pool Safety

Traffic:

- Road Safety
- Child Restraint and seat belt campaigns
- Walk Safely to School
- Bike Helmet campaigns

Occupational:

- Mega Training Day
- Say no to violence against women

School:

- Animal Management
- Walk Safely to School
- Anti bullying
- School Holiday program
- PetPEP



Leisure:

- Bike engraving
- Adopt a Park
- Healthy Lifestyle
- PACNET

Violence prevention (intentional injuries):

The City of Palmerston works in close collaboration with the Palmerston Police and a wide range of non government organisations to reduce the incidence of violence.

- Family Violence
- Youth program
- Alcohol Management
- School Anti Bullying campaign
- Bus Interchange Program

Suicide prevention (self-inflicted injuries):

There is not a high incidence of suicide in Palmerston and the city is proactive in working to foster community well being, a sense of belonging and support for all its residents. Current programs are general in nature and specific initiatives will be developed in the future.

Programmes aiming at “High risk-groups”:

Notwithstanding the success in safety and injury prevention across a wide range of Council programs the City of Palmerston has recognised two population groups that are ‘hidden’ within the statistics.

People who register as having a disability are 2% of the population (Census 2006). Issues raised by this group are similar to those of seniors and it is important to ensure they are appropriately addressed. Issues are considered through our Disability Access Program.

The Palmerston Indigenous Village (PIV) is not a formal suburb of the municipality and is on the outskirts of Litchfield Shire. The site of PIV was originally established, as temporary accommodation, for visitors to the area but over time has become a permanent place of residence for indigenous families. Significant support is provided through a Community Development Worker and Youth Diversionary Projects.

Statistics that show the negative impacts of alcohol in the Palmerston community are alarming and a broad based community and Government response is required to address demand, supply and harm if further reductions in safety and injury prevention can be realised. City of Palmerston has undertaken broad community consultation in the development of an Alcohol Management Plan and specific initiatives are being progressively implemented

Surveillance of injuries:

Numbers per year:

While a wide range of statistics is available through NT Government Departments that gives insight into priority safety and injury issues for Palmerston the Northern Territory does not currently have a trauma registry. PRSCC has recently developed a matrix of key performance indicators (KPIs) for the Safe Communities program and the Department of Health and Community Services is assisting with the collection and analysis of data to reflect these KPIs.

In the period 2002 – 2004 there were 605 crashes in Palmerston with 2 fatalities, 86 people admitted to hospital and 103 people treated at hospital but not admitted.

Hospital admissions over the period 1999 to 2003 showed an increasing trend in injury related issues.

In 2003 / 2004 there were 9,118 workdays lost with a cost to Palmerston businesses of \$1,069,650.

Population base:

With an average age of 28, Palmerston's 23,848 population is primarily made up of families. The Australian Bureau of Statistics predicts Palmerston's population will reach over 40,000 people by 2021.

Approximately 30% of the population is under 15 years old and our Indigenous population is 11.9%.

74.8% of persons usually resident in Palmerston were born in Australia. The number of people employed in the Defence Force living in Palmerston has increased from 4.7% in 1996 to 7.3% in 2001 and 11.2% in 2006. (Census 2006) In Palmerston 7.4% of homes were fully owned, 40.8% were being purchased and 39.7% were rented (Census 2006). There are pockets of low-socio economic areas

but the community works in collaboration with the City of Palmerston to proactively advocate for services to support families in this circumstance

Started year: The Palmerston Safe Communities program commenced in 2005 and initial data was accessed predominantly through the Department of Health and Community Service and the Department of Justice quarterly Crime statistics.

Publications: (Scientific) none

Produced information material, pamphlets, community communication:

- 'Look at Me' brochure
- Regular news through Palmerston Post (Council newsletter)
- Monthly news through Queensland Safe Communities Support Centre
- Palmerston Safety Survey 2006: Experiences and Perceptions of injury, safety and crime in Palmerston
- Local newspaper articles and promotion

Staff

Number: 1

Professions: Part-time coordinator

Temporary: 1 year contract

Organization: City Of Palmerstone

Specific inter-sectoral leadership group: Palmerston Regional Safe Communities Committee

General public health/health promotion group: Palmerston Regional Safe Communities Committee

International commitments:

- Membership of the Australian Safe Communities Foundation
- Member of the Queensland Safe Communities Support Centre
- Representatives attended Safe Community conferences in Townsville 2005 and 2006

