

Safe Community Shihkang



Country : **Taiwan**

Number of inhabitants : **16,187**

Programme started year : **2004-2005**

International Safe Communities Network Membership : 148

Designation year : **2008**

Full Application Available:

http://www.shihkang.gov.tw/mess_det.asp?action=news&id=1462

Info address : www.shihkang.gov.tw/measage_more.asp?action=safemore

The programme covers the following Safety promotion activities :

For the age group

Children 0-14 years :

The leading causes of injuries among children ages 14 and under are suffocation, burn injuries, and falls. Most of these accidents happen at home. Injuries occurred frequently among young children indicated the lack of proper child injury prevention concepts among caregivers and poor protective measures. Thus, child safety education program including selection of safe toys and improvement of home environment for child's safety was delivered to every home with children under 6 years of age. For children of schooling age, the school safety education program focuses on building their safety consciousness and upgrading their safety awareness and behavior. The program of Safe Bikers helps schoolchildren riding bicycles safely for daily transportation and for leisure activities as well.

Youth 15-24 years :

Traffic accidents are the main cause of injuries among teens and post-adolescents; moreover, most of these accidents occurred near school gate during the peak hours before and after school. Many of these traffic accidents had been due to juvenile motorcycle riders driving

without license, speeding, and traffic violations. Hence in addition to reinforce traffic safety education for juvenile motorcyclists, **the traffic safety management before and after school periods at school gates was also enhanced by trained schoolteachers and volunteer parents.**

Adults 25-64 years :

Pesticide poisoning is common in this age group. Around 33% of the Shihkang town population engages in farming, and farmers are often plagued with the following hazards: poisoning due to pesticide spraying, falling, injured by farm equipment or during implement operation or other farming operations. The program for this age group aims to improve the safety features of hazardous environments, teach safe pesticide usage and storage, and create a safe living environment for farmers and their families.

Elderly 65+ years :

Senior citizens living alone or those with insufficient safety knowledge are the high risk group for injuries. Falling is the major cause of injuries in this age group. In addition, medication adverse effects due to misuse of medicine are also a problem for this group. Therefore, falling prevention programs including enhancement of their physical capacity and balance exercise as well as medication safety education were designed and implemented for them.

At the following environments :

Home :

As home accidents and injuries come in many forms, such as falling physical injury, asphyxiation, burns, poisoning, etc., and the primary vulnerable groups for such injuries are children and senior citizens, the Home Safety Program first collected data for senior citizen falling. It compelled senior citizen caregivers to pay serious attention to the importance of a safe home environment. Next, a home environment evaluation plan was provided. Companions living with senior citizens were taught means to prevent falling among senior citizens.

Improvements to home environments for senior citizen safety were also implemented.

For children's safety at home, we also have a series of projects including volunteer training, home safety inspection, home safety education for child caregivers, home safety improvement evaluation. We also cooperated with schools to provide parents with home safety information. The program regularly held home fire safety training and first aid rescue training (e.g., teaching and drills on the proper usage of fire extinguishers, fire escape rappellers, and proper administration of CPR). It enhanced the self-help and rescue skills of community residents.

Occupational : **The Farming Safety Program**

In Shihkang Township, farming is the principal source of livelihood of the people, and around 34% of the population has farming related occupations; hence farming safety problems have become a major concern of the committee members. In light of which, the safety and protection plan of the Farming Safety Program not only caters to the safety requirements of farmers worker at the fields, but also takes into account the problems in the environments commonly used in the farms and homes. The program aims to reduce the hazards and increase the safety of farming environments, to teach safe pesticides usage and pesticide storeroom management, and to create a safe living environment for farmers and their families.

Traffic : **Road Safety Program**

Traffic accident is the major cause of injuries in Shihkang. Visitors biking around the DongFeng Green Corridor constitute the high risk group in this area. Hence, a Road Safety Promotion Plan was devised to improve the road environment and ameliorate the safety awareness of road users. In addition to enhance Shihkang Township Road Safety responsibilities in improving road conditions and warning signs and promoting road safety for schoolchildren, we made strategic alliance with bike rental shops along the Dongfeng Green Corridor to give biking safety education and to promote bicycle helmets use for tourists.

School :

The School Safety Program is aimed to upgrade the safety awareness and mobility of students, teachers, and school employees, the school safety promotion capacity, and the cooperation between schools and the community. The action committee inspects hazard spots and thereafter, seeks for improvements. The program covers

1. Traffic Safety Promotion Plan for Schoolchildren
2. School Environment Safety Management Plan
3. School Safety Education Campaign
4. Student Meal Preparation Safety Plan

Programs aiming at “High risk-groups” :

- Home safety promotion for elderly living alone
- Promotion of safe farming among farmers
- Traffic Safety Promotion programs for Schoolchildren

Surveillance of injuries :

Population base : 16,187

Started year : 2005

Accident and Injury Surveillance

Unit of Shihkang Township

Officer in-charge: Lin Yung-Lung
(Director of Shihkang Township
Public Health Center)

Data & Statistics Compilation & Analysis Unit

(Officer in-charge: Lin Li-Tzu)

1. Ms. Chen Li-Chuan handles all statistical analysis work.
2. Social workers, Chang Yu-Chiung, Tang Yang-Chiung, and Hsu Yu-Ling, assist in the handling of data filing matters.
3. The following agencies collect needed data through written reports: Dungshr Branch of the Taichung County Police Bureau, Taichung County Fire Department, and Farmers Hospital of the Dungshr Township Farmers Association

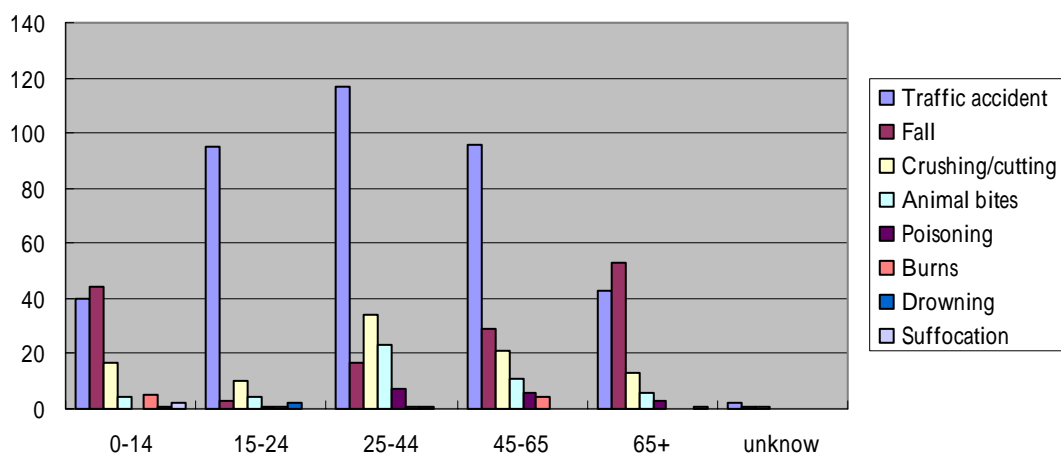
Data Recording Unit

1. Shihkang Township Public Health Center: medical personnel 5 persons
2. School health center: school nurse, Pan Hui-Ling
3. Daycare centers: Nurse, Lee Hsiao-Yu

Age distribution of types of injuries in Shihkang for 4 years

(1/1/2003-31/12/2006) Total=719

Date source : Emergency Room in Dungshr Farmers Hospital



We continue monitoring injury data and hope to see the reduction of injuries in the near future.

Produced information material, pamphlets : Yes

Staff



Number : 5

Professions : part-time

Organization : Shihkang Center for Safety Promotion (SCSP)

Specific intersectoral leadership group : Shihkang Township Office, Shihkang Township

Representative Council, Shihkang Township Public Health Center, Shihkang Police Substation, Shihkang Fire station

Participation in Safe Community conferences :

2005 : 3rd Asian Region Safe Community Conference, Taiwan

2007 : 4th Asian Region Safe Community Conference, Thailand

Hosting Safe Community Conferences : No

Hosting “Travelling Seminars” : 2006 , 2007

Further information contact :



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