

Society for Safe Community in Pakistan

The basic purpose of the Society for Safe Community is to create a safe environment by developing public-health awareness, promoting accident and injury prevention, improving the health-care system, and controlling pollution.

Some facts on the injury problem in Pakistan: Number 1 cause of death under 45 years of age is accident/trauma; 60 deaths per 10,000 motorized vehicles occur due to accidents in Pakistan every year; more than 50,000 deaths occur every year due to accidents; 50% preventable deaths occur because safety laws and road & transport regulations are not practised; 50% preventable deaths occur because of improper/sub-standard emergency-treatment facilities; 20% deaths occur solely because of delay in proper surgical intervention.

In the past, the activities of the Society have mainly been limited to "Accident and Injury Control". In this regard, the Society has organized several activities over the past seven years.

"However, we always felt the need to have an organized body to deal with these enormous problems in an organized and effective way. This motivated us to form the Society for Safe Community in Lahore, Pakistan in 1996."

The Society's activities have included:

- * Epidemiological survey of the injured to find the main causes of injuries and thereby identify the major risk factors.
- * Arranging seminars and other awareness activities for accident and injury control.
- * Conducting seminars and first-aid courses for teachers in schools and people from other walks of life.
- * Training Workshops on first-aid and transportation of injured persons by patrolling police squads (since there is no ambulance service).

Despite all such activities, the problems seem to be increasing day-by-day at an alarming rate. This is mainly due to the fact that in a developing country like Pakistan, where there are enormous economic



Course organized for school teachers to promote child safety in schools

and political problems, and where literacy rates are extremely low, concepts of safety are extremely neglected. The extreme economic restraints on the general public due to high inflation makes the problem even worse, as price of a product becomes a priority rather than its safety. Apart from this, general public-health and education standards are also very poor, and there is very poor pollution control. Thus, there is enormous air pollution in all the big cities. Crime rates are increasing, and injuries due to violence and accidents have increased tremendously.

Let us join hands to make Pakistan a Safe Community!

Dr. Rizwan Naseer, founder of the Society.



Professor Leif Svanström (left), Sweden, appointed as the Patron-in-Chief of the Society by Dr. Rizwan Naseer (right).

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
and the
**National Institute for
Occupational Safety & Health**
are seeking applications for a
Postdoctoral Research Award
to be offered in the field of
Occupational Health, Safety and Epidemiology
at the
**NIOSH, Division of Safety Research
Alaska Field Station, Anchorage, Alaska**

The National Research Council (NRC) will offer a competitive award for research to be conducted in residence at NIOSH's Alaska Field Station of the Division of Safety Research. The awardee will participate in field investigations of serious occupational injuries and design and participate in a variety of descriptive and analytic epidemiologic studies of occupational injuries and fatalities, with a particular emphasis on the commercial fishing and aviation industries:

For further information contact:

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Applications, submitted directly to the NRC, are accepted on a continuous basis throughout the year. Those postmarked January 15 will be reviewed in the February competition, by April 15 in June, and by August 15 in October.

For application materials contact:

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Programs (TJ2114/JT)
2101 Constitution Avenue NW,
Washington, DC 20418
Fax: +1 202 334 2759; E-mail: rap@nas.edu

Read on world wide web....

You can now also find Safe Community News on:
<http://www.ki.se/phs/wcc-csp/safecom-news>

Information on the Safe Communities programmes
on: <http://www.ki.se/phs/wcc-csp/safecom>

Information on the WHO Collaborating Centre on
Community Safety Promotion on:
<http://www.ki.se/phs/wcc-csp>

The expanded Safe Community Network

The Safe Community Network includes now 21 members. The last community that was accepted was Eldorado Park in Greater Johannesburg in South Africa. Other members are: in Sweden Lidköping, Motala, Falköping, Falun, Kromkom, Skövde, Arjeplog; in France Toulouse; in Thailand Wang Khoi; in Denmark Esbjerg; in Scotland Corkerhill and Castlemilk; in Australia Illawarra, Hume City, Noarlunga, La Trobe and Parks; in Norway Harstad; in Canada Fort McMurray changed to Wood Buffalo and in USA, Dallas.

New Safe Community Affiliates!

The WHO Collaborating Centre now have support for spreading the Safe Community concept from 3 Affiliate Safe Community Support Centres, they are Injury Preventive Centre in Alberta, Canada and The Safe Community Foundation in Toronto, Canada and the Monash University Accident Research Centre in Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. Bo Henricson, project leader for Arjeplog Safe Community in Sweden, has been responsible for putting information about the Safe Communities programme on the world wide web.



Number 3, 1997

Editor: Moa Sundström
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