

6 Indicators for International Safe Communities

Six indicators were accepted in May 2002 for the Safe Community Network, and will replace the former 12 Safe Community Criteria.

The 12 criteria for Safe Communities were developed as a tool for quality control of safety promotion programmes during the First Travelling Seminar held in Sweden/Thailand in 1989. The work represented collaboration between representatives from Lidköping, Falköping and Motala in Sweden and Jerry Moller, Principle Consultant in Australia.

A revision of the 12 criteria so as better to adapt them to the problems of big cities (with populations larger than 1 million) was initiated at a seminar in Dallas, USA, 1996.

A second meeting was held in Anchorage, USA, 2001 in conjunction with the SafeComm-10 Conference, where a working group was established.



Diana Hudson, at CDC Anchorage, was responsible for synthesis of the findings of the work group, which ended up with the following six indicators.



Safe Communities have:

1. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community;
2. Long-term, sustainable programs covering both genders and all ages, environments, and situations;
3. Programs that target high-risk groups and environments, and programs that promote safety for vulnerable groups;
4. Programs that document the frequency and causes of injuries;
5. Evaluation measures to assess their programs, processes and the effects of change;
6. Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks.

How to become a Member of the Safe Community Network

Communities wishing to apply for Safe Community membership, including “designation”, should adopt the following procedure:

- Make an application describing the programme with each of the “Six Indicators for International Safe Communities” as headings;

- Provide a text for the web site www.phs.ki.se/csp at the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion describing the programme. The file will be sent on request.

The applicant community covers all costs related to the “Site Visit” and designation, and there is an application fee of 900 US\$.

Some programmes are no longer internationally

active, and their status as “Safe Community” has been withdrawn.

The WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion has until now designated 70 programmes as Safe Communities; they represent big cities, town districts, counties, and municipalities.

A list of designated members is available at www.phs.ki.se/csp/safecom/default.htm

Applications should be sent to: Moa Sundstrom, Co-ordinator, Karolinska Institutet, Department of Public Health Sciences, Division of Social Medicine, Norrbacka 2nd Floor, SE-171 76 Stockholm, Sweden
Phone: + 46 - 8 - 517 779 48; Fax: + 46 - 8 - 33 46 93
E-mail: moa.sundstrom@phs.ki.se

A New Safe Community Initiative: International Safe Schools Workgroup

Started at the 10th International Conference on Safe Communities in Anchorage, Alaska, USA, this workgroup is growing fast and moving to formalise the indicators of a WHO Safe School (the “benchmarks” a school will have to meet), and also the process of application, evaluation and site visitation involved on the road to being designated as a WHO Safe School.

The workgroup is co-chaired by Ms. Ellen Schmidt, MPH, of the Educational Development Center and Mr. Max Vosskuhler of the Peaceful Resources Center. Through a series of meetings and teleconferences prior to the 11th International Conference on Safe Communities in Fort Frances, Ontario, Canada, members of the workgroup, then few in number, came up with an outline of the model – mixing the six indicators of Safe Communities, re-worded to fit schools, and the areas of safety and health promotion for schools outlined by Dr. Lisa Barrios. These were discussed in brief with members of the Safe Community movement in Fort Frances. However, due to travel restrictions on many interested parties, the main meeting was held at the 6th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control in Montreal on 13 May 2002.

The plan and process were presented and debated. While it was agreed that this represented a start, there were details that needed to be filled in. With the group now being considerably larger (30 members as of 13 June 2002), the

focus is on bringing all new ideas for benchmarking, evaluation and designation to the table by e-mail list conferencing.

By 15 September 2002, we would like to have a set of formal drafts prepared for the full committee’s consideration by vote, followed by adoption of the final working plan.

This working plan will then be submitted for formal consideration via the Collaborating Centre at Karolinska Institutet in Sweden.

To be added to the e-mail list for updates or to participate in the discussions of WHO Safe Schools, please contact either Max Vosskuhler (E-mail: webmaster@peacebuilders.com) or Ellen Schmidt (E-mail: eschmidt@edc.org). www.peacebuilders.com

We are also happy to provide any and all drafts or notes of proceedings to date (via E-mail). Updates will also be available via International Safe Community Weekly News.

Please forward any information you have concerning:

1. Processes and procedures for Safe Schools in your municipality or country.
2. Ideas for a Safe Schools logo for the Designation Plaque.
3. Your thoughts on how to bring schools into the process and involve community in-reach and community outreach functions in the process.
4. Your thoughts on a system of standardised designation in which local experts perform visitations and evaluations, report to the international group, and then present the official designation.
5. Thoughts on the process of Safe Schools and Safe Communities.

Max Vosskuhler

Conference

**12th International Conference on
Safe Communities**

Conference: 18-20 March

Exhibition: 18-20 March

Hong Kong SAR, China

E-mail: safety2003@oshc.org.hk

Conference website: www.safety2003.org.hk

Workshop

**A Learning Journey: Integrating the Safe
Community Model in Large Urban Centres
2-4 April, 2003**

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Further information:

gregory.steinraths@gov.calgary.ab.ca

You will find further information on Courses at:

www.phs.ki.se/csp/research_and_training.htm

and Conferences at:

www.phs.ki.se/csp/upcoming_conferences_and_seminars.htm

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**WHO COLLABORATING
CENTRE ON COMMUNITY
SAFETY PROMOTION,
KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET**

**Department of Public Health Sciences,
Division of Social Medicine**

SE-171 76 Stockholm

SWEDEN



Phone: +46 8 517 779 48

Fax: +46 8 33 46 93

E-mail: moa.sundstrom@phs.ki.se

<http://www.phs.ki.se/csp>