



KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET  
Department of Public Health Sciences  
Division of Social Medicine



WHO COLLABORATING  
CENTRE  
ON  
COMMUNITY SAFETY PROMOTION

## SAFE COMMUNITY WEEKLY NEWS

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

Welcome to the seventeenth issue of Safe Community Weekly News, the electronic Safe Community Weekly News will be send from Harstad - Norway on behalf of Safe Communities Network.

### WHAT IS NEW AT SAFE COMMUNITIES?

In this issue:

- **DESIGNATION: Vorarlberg and Josefstadt, Austria**
- **TRAVELLING SEMINAR: The 14<sup>th</sup> TS on Safe Communities, Austria**
- **WELKNOWN PROFILES: Bo Henricson, Sweden**
- **WORKING TOGETHER: Spydeberg, Norway and Straupe, Latvia**
- **MEETING: WHO consultation expert from WHO regions**
- **SITEVISIT: Larvik and Fredrikstad, Norway**

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### **Two new Safe Communities inaugurated in Austria – Vorarlberg and Josefstadt**

Already in 1996 fourteen of the municipalities in the State of Vorarlberg in Western Austria had reached the Safe Communities status. Since then the program has been extended to the whole State of Vorarlberg and was consequently designated as Vorarlberg Safe Community on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April. The Day after Josefstadt a part of Vienna was designated as well. Josefstadt will serve as a demonstration for further spread of the Safe Community idea within Vienna.





## The 14<sup>th</sup> Travelling Seminar on Safe Communities 2002 Over but not forgotten

The 14<sup>th</sup> Travelling Seminar on Safe Communities was held in Austria from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2002. Sixteen participants from 6 different countries attended the seminar. The participants learned about Austrian injury prevention campaigns. They visited both newly designated Austrian Safe Communities: Josefstadt and Vorarlberg. During the site visits the participants also learned about the various attempts in accident prevention and get to know the projects of the Austrian Safe communities.

The participants, who are all experts in the field of injury prevention, will take the experiences from the seminar home for their own work. Most of them plan to establish Safe Communities in their country of origin. The relevance of the lessons learned for the participants for their work was well described in the final report. The following is a highlight of activities the participants plan to carry-out:

- Establish an independent, non-governmental institution like Institute "Sicher Leben" to collect experiences, to support local safety promotion and to push forward the Safe Community idea.
- Fund a driver test centre, as seen in Austria for improving the skills of drivers.
- Address young children with a Clown Theatre, as shown in Austria.
- Install projects for older persons like the neighbourhood project in Austria.
- Establish a documentation of risk assessment for employers like the Workers Compensation Board in Austria. And many more ...

In a feedback form the participants filled in their opinion regarding the seminar. On a scale from 1 to 5 (1= fully met to 5= not at all met) the participants answered with an average rate of 1.3 to the question "Were your personal expectations for this Travelling Seminar met by the Seminar Programme?" Finally, it can be said that the seminar was not only very successful but also fun and a wonderful opportunity to learn about different cultures.



## WELKNOWN PROFILES IN THE SAFE COMMUNITY MOVEMENT



### **BO HENRICSON**

Bo Henricson (57) was born in Denmark and became a medical doctor at the University of Aarhus. He became Swedish specialist in General Medicine and has been a General Practitioner in Arjeplog since 1975.

For the past 25 years he has been working with Health Promotion as well local as international. During the 1980 's he was advisor and consultant for WHO Euro, in matters concerning the Health for All issue and he has been travelling around the world giving lectures about health promotion in the local community for many years.

The last 10 years, he has been concentrating on injury and suicide prevention, and he is actively involved in health issues in the Barent region (northern Scandinavia and Russia). He is a member of several national and international working groups and has been the project manager of the "Safe Community Arjeplog".

#### **Publications:**

Co-writer: Self Help and Health in Europe. WHO Publication

Co-writer: Swedish book about alcohol

Several articles in different publications about Health Promotion

Columnist in a monthly magazine about health several years

Author of the health political programme for the municipality of Arjeplog

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## **Spydeberg municipality in Norway presenting information on Safe Community in Latvia**

Spydeberg municipality has more than 10 years sister city relation with Straupe municipality in Cesis region in Latvia. 5<sup>th</sup> October 2001 a small delegation from Straupe and Cesis region in Latvia visited Norway, they visited Spydeberg municipality. In relation with that visit they visited the Oslo where the mini seminar arranged at the Safe Community secretary in Norway. Bent Olav Olsen and from Spydeberg Kommune Gunnar Hjorthaug presented the process of Safe Community work.

On 27<sup>th</sup> April from Spydeberg municipality Technical manager Stig Stubberud and Public Health advisor Gunnar Hjorthaug visited Straupe and accomplished debate for future collaboration between Straupe and Spydeberg

With regard to Safe community work, the Latvian partners are interested in Safe Community, but because of the hard economical situation the municipality cannot afford to have a permanent coordinator for injury prevention work. They would like at the beginning to clarify there obligations with their own injury prevention program. In collaboration with Spydeberg established a Red Cross group in the municipality of Straupe.



L to R: Technical manager Stig Stubberud, Public Health advisor Gunnar Hjorthaug and the mayor of Straupe Juris Baltgalvis, he was invited to participate in the international travelling seminar in Spydeberg in the first week in June 2002.



L to R: Interpreter Andris, Stig Stubberud, Gunnar Hjorthaug, Headmaster Ligita Krumina and a teacher from Straupe primary school.

## **WHO initiative for improving curricula on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion.**

In a two days WHO consultation expert from all parts of the WHO regions gathered in Geneva to develop a strategy for curricula in Schools teaching Safety around the World. Safe Communities will certainly have its part of the future training and education.



## **Site visit to two community safety programs in Norway**

Larvik and Fredrikstad Municipalities in Norway have applied to be designated as Safe Communities. During 22 and 29 April 2002, WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, and their representative Dr. Robert Ekman made site visits to the municipalities. He studied if the communities fulfilled the WHO criteria of being pointed out as a WHO Safe Community. He was shown practical program activities and was given information and experiences from the political leaders, managers and practitioners of the community safety programs. Both municipalities demonstrated their safety organizations and how they tried to reach parents and children, the young people and the older population with safety and health promotion. The programs give priority to road traffic safety, school safety and home safety for children and the elderly. They also try to give special attendance to teenagers, with drug- and crime prevention efforts. Both programs included suicide prevention and prevention of intentional injuries.

### **LARVIK MUNICIPALITY**



L: Mayor of Larvik Oyvind Riise Jenssen (Left) discuss safety issues during lunch with Robert Ekman.  
R: Municipal doctor Gunnar Lund show health statistics concerning injuries for hospital admissions for the years 2000-2001 in Larvik Municipality.



Larvik management group for community safety program. Left: Robert Ekman, WHO, Njål Englok, SC Secretariat, Astrid Sommerstad, Deputy Executive Director, Bjorn Evensen, Health Director, Bente Foss, Project Leader, Jon Fonkalsrud, Planning Director, Elisabeth Hessen, Leader of High-Quality Workmanship, Björn Harald Sti, Traffic Safety, Knut Hjalmar Gulliksen, Director of Technical Department



Robert Jacobsen (in the middle) demonstrate safety for the elderly in Larvik (checklists, brochures and safety products)



L: Children from four different schools (Ostre Halen, Nanset, Torstrand, Tjodalving) in Larvik Municipality get 2002 year award for traffic safety at school.

R: Brith Teigen, responsible of the cross-sectoral Service Centre, show that they are taking care of all kinds of errands like social concerns, job advice and how to build a new family house e.c.t.

## Fredrikstad Municipality



Fredrikstad Community Safety Management Group under the leadership of Vice Chairman Wenja Ringen and Executive Director Kjell Kåresen.



L: Anne Berit Mamre in front of one of 12 cupboards with elderly safety equipment. Those are placed in different public premises around the municipality.  
R: Kate Hoel, responsible for Centre for Voluntary Work and Line O. Angeloff show safety bag with products for elderly safety.



L: Project Leader Line O. Ageloff demonstrate the Fredrikstad Safe Community application to WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden  
 R: Tor Larsen and Lars Ole Mostad, Fredrikstad fire-brigade and Bjorn Arnesen, Gjensidige insurance (in the middle) discuss about fire protection and active international safety cooperation with San Marin in Guatemala.



L: Traffic safety measures in front of a Cicignon school.  
 R: Director of Fredrikstad Sport Facilities, Tom Hermansen, show safety equipment for preventing injuries at leisure time.

\*\*\*\*\*NOTES TO CONTRIBUTORS\*\*\*\*\*

The editors must hear from you so that Safe Community Weekly News can effectively serve as a medium of communication for Safe Community Network members, and those whom are interested in injury prevention and Community safety promotion. We are soliciting contributions from all members who have information relevant to the Safe Community Network. There are a number of specific items we are seeking:

- Information on new designated communities, affiliated centres and their activities;
- Announcement of conferences or seminars in Safe community, injury prevention and related subjects;
- Calls for papers by journals and book editors;
- Announcements of new appointments and promotions;
- Articles describing activities or new initiatives at your community, institution, Centre or firm (perhaps describing your departmental or university programs in safety promotion, discussing new practices, methods, and tools used in Injury prevention and community safety promotion, describing new governmental policy initiatives / programs, and so forth).

Please send your activities, programs and reports via post/ e-mail to the editor: Yousif Rahim [yousif.rahim@harstad.kommune.no](mailto:yousif.rahim@harstad.kommune.no),  
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