



KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET
 Department of Public Health Sciences
 Division of Social Medicine



**WHO COLLABORATING
 CENTRE
 ON
 COMMUNITY SAFETY PROMOTION**

SAFE COMMUNITY WEEKLY NEWS

NO. 7
 February 2002

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

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

WHAT IS NEW AT SAFE COMMUNITIES?

In this issue:

- **SITE VISIT: WHO CC Site visit to Ski and Spydeberg municipalities**
- **WELKNOWN PROFILES: Diana Hudson, MPH, Alaska, USA**
- **CONFERENCE: 3RD Annual Injury Prevention Conference, Wales**

SITE VISIT AT COMMUNITY SAFETY PROGRAMS IN NORWAY

Ski and Spydeberg Municipalities in Norway have applied to become Safe Communities. During 7 February 2002, WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, and their representative Dr. Robert Ekman made a site visit 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 safety activities as well as information from the political leaders and managers of the safety programs. Both municipalities demonstrated their safety organizations and how they tried to reach the young and the older population with safety and health promotion. They both give priority to road traffic safety and home safety for all age groups and with special attendance to teenagers.

Ski municipality



Left: Cross-sectional Safety Working Group in Ski Municipality.

Right: Georg Stub (Mayor) and Administrative Director Richard E. Malinowski (to the left) with Ski Safety Management Group.



Georg Stub hands over the Ski Municipality application for being a WHO Safe Community, to Robert Ekman.



Municipal Commissioner Georg Stub and Mr. Engløk from Safe Community Secretariat, Norway, looking at safety products for the elderly, demonstrated by Kristin Vågen.



Left: Pre-school children with teacher from Nordre Finstad Day- Care Centre going for a walk.
Right: Safe parking solution in front of a school, beside a big road.

Spydeberg municipality



Meeting with the Safety Management Group: Public Health Officer Gunnar Hjorthaug, Administrative Director Anne Marie Glosli, Local Government Commissioner Stein Håland, Chief of Police Steinar Svendsen and Dr. Robert Ekman, WHO CC, Bent Olav Olsen, Safe Community Secretariat, Norway and Synnove Olausen Spydeberg Trade and Industry Forum.



Child Health Center with Dr. Jørn Bakken, nurses Grethe Stople and Ranveig Baggetorp, demonstrating safety materials.



Left: Safety information exhibition at child health center.

Right: Manager Per Jarle Hestnes, Hovin Day-Care Centre show safe door (with rubber-list) for prevention of crushed fingers.

WELKNOWN PROFILES IN THE SAFE COMMUNITY MOVEMENT



Anchorage is Alaska's largest city, and home for Diana Hudson. Hudson says that it's a home of extremes: bracing winters, long summer days, the occasional earthquake, and an active, outdoor-oriented culture are part of the Alaskan lifestyle, but there are other aspects of Anchorage's 'personality' that are more troubling. Injury rates in Anchorage and across Alaska are significantly higher than for the rest of the US, and many community safety programs are just now being developed.

Hudson is part of growing corps of community safety activists who are working across the state to promote a safer Alaska. She's been involved in motor vehicle injury prevention programs, community-planning efforts to create safer environments, alcohol abuse prevention projects and occupational safety and health programs. She is currently employed as a Health Educator for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and sits on the board of the Alaska Public Health Association. As the mother of five children, she says her proudest moment so far has been in helping to write Anchorage's application to become part of the Safe Communities network, along with George Conway and several others. "Our city's membership in the Network is a way to help make sure that my kids, and kids all around the municipality, will be able to grow up in healthier, safer neighbourhoods."

Hudson's interest in the larger International Safe Communities comes naturally- although she was born in Colorado, USA, she was raised on Guam, an island in the Pacific Ocean. She later went to college in Panama, and then moved to Alaska in the early 1980s. "Safety is a universal value," she says. "Nobody anywhere on this planet wants to spend his or her days in pain. The great thing about the International Safe Communities movement is that the concepts are part of human nature, to survive, and to thrive."

Hudson was a part of the organizing committee that arranged for the Conference, along with George Conway, Marcia Rom, Ron Perkins, and a Committee that kept us out of trouble. Her main tasks were to coordinate all scientific papers, help arrange for speakers, and- the real headache- laying out all the conference publications, from start to finish. The day she picked up all the bound volumes of the proceedings at the publishers was one of the happiest days of her life! "I am very pleased about the scientific content of the conference," and think that the quality of the presentations demonstrate how far we have come, as an International movement; we now have data spanning several decades, our evaluation methods are becoming much more rigorous, and our ability to communicate our successes, (and occasional failures) helps drive the growth of each new International Safe Community.

And what does this Safe Communities proponent do when she's not at work? Hudson is trying to teach herself Swedish, a project she says is going very slowly. "The biggest problem is trying to figure out how to say some of the words. So many vowels!" She's also taking piano lessons, in an effort to catch up with the other accomplished musicians who populate the International Safe Communities network, but says that this project is also a work in progress. "I still can't figure out the bass clef notes," she says, "so I'm delaying my musical debut until Safe Comm 20." Until then, Hudson will continue to practice, and to promote International Safe Communities, in Alaska.

Contact information:
Diana S. Hudson MPH
Health Communications Specialist
Alaska Field Station, Division of Safety Research
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4230 University Drive, Suite 310
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
907 271 2388 phone
907 271 2390 fax
emails: dhh8@cdc.gov or diana_hudson@hotmail.com

.....

WALES ANNUAL INJURY PREVENTION CONFERENCE
"SAFE COMMUNITIES"
Tuesday 19 March 2002
Swansea County Hall, Oystermouth Road, Swansea

For information and registration please contact:

Monica Dennis
Child Safe Wales,
Gerry Hales Safety Centre,
Llandough Hospital,
Penlan Road, Penarth,
Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 2XX
Phone: 029 2071 6933
Fax: 029 2935 0140
Email: dennism@cardiff.ac.uk

*****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 or programs, and so forth).

Please send any contributions via e-mail to the editor: Yousif Rahim yousif.rahim@harstad.kommune.no.

Yousif Rahim
project leader "Safe Community"
Phone: +47 770 27 017 / 971 44 182
Fax: +47 770 27 001
E-mail: yousif.rahim@harstad.kommune.no
<http://www.harstad.kommune.no/om-harstad/Safe-Com-eng.htm>

*****14. Februar 2002