



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 eighth 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 Nordberg, Denmark**
- **WELKNOWN PROFILES: Professor Lothar Schelp, Sweden**
- **DESIGNATION: Safe Community Designation, Vorarlberg, Austria**

SITE VISIT IN NORDBORG, DENMARK

Nordborg Municipality in Denmark (with 14,000 inhabitants) is applying for Safe Community Network Membership. Nordborg is situated on the island Als, near the border to Germany. The site visit was carried through co-ordinator Moa Sundström on 4 February.

Nordborg is a already member of the Health Cities Network since 1991 where injury prevention is a part of that work.

The program focus on physical activities from the cradle to the older generation to avoid fall injuries.



Lene Jessen is informing parents about safety issues in their homes, for children at age of new-born, 4 months, and 8 months.



Left: Physiotherapist Vibeke Todsén has created this imaginative track for balance training
 Right: Cecilia Wolf health planner for the elderly

All over the age of 75 years are offered home visits by a health planner twice a year. This has been going on since 5 years and has resulted in a lower rate of hip fractures than in the total country.

Violence and crime prevention

“Natteranene” is a group of 3 parents who on voluntary patrol during 00 –04 a.m. The Mayor Jan Prokopek Jensen is an active “ Natteranene” in Nordborg. There are 73 parents who have received their education by an insurance company. There is low criminality in Nordborg.

Traffic



Speed reduction actions in front of Gederup school
 Kristian Toft, police in Nordborg and Gregor Gurevitsch, Director of Health Service are two key persons in the safety promotion activities in Nordborg.

All these activities are now well integrated in the ordinary activities.

WELKNOWN PROFILES IN THE SAFE COMMUNITY MOVEMENT



Lothar Schelp

Lothar Schelp was born in Germany and came to Sweden in 1965. He has over twenty years of experience from safety promotion and injury prevention at the local, regional and national level.

In 1987 he received his PhD in community medicine in the Department of Social Medicine at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden.

He is now professor of Public Health at the Karolinska Institute and since 1992 head of the national injury prevention program and an Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre at the Swedish National Institute of Public Health.

The name Lothar Schelp is synonymous with the pioneering community safety program in Falköping, Sweden, which achieved significant reductions in injuries at home (27%), at work (28%) and on the roads (28%) during three years, and became the inspiration for community based injury prevention programs world-wide.

His research since the end of the 1970s has focused primarily on developing models and methods for injury surveillance, methods for intervention and evaluation, epidemiological studies of injuries in the traffic, domestic, recreational, work and school environments, and studies of injuries among children and the elderly.

He acts as an expert in different governmental investigations and within the epidemiological network of experts connected to the EU injury prevention program (IPP). He is consultant to Swedish Authorities and National Boards.

Other appointments and responsibilities include:

Expert, Injury classification, National Epidemiology Centre of the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare, 1992-1996.

Member of Research Council, County Council of Skaraborg, 1983-1987.

Expert, Nordic Medico-Statistical Committee (NOMESCO), Working Party for Registration and Classification of Injuries, 1980-1997.

Member of the National Council for Suicide Prevention, 1996-1999.

Lothar Schelp – Some Publications:

1. Schelp L. 1987. Epidemiology as a basis for evaluation of a community intervention programme on Accidents.(Thesis). Karolinska Institutet, Sundbyberg, 1987.
2. Schelp L. 1987. Community intervention and changes in accident pattern in a rural Swedish municipality. Health Promotion 1987;Vol2(2):109-25.
3. Schelp L. 1988. The role of organizations in community participation - prevention of accidental injuries in a rural Swedish municipality. Soc Sci Med 1988;Vol 26(11):1087-1093.
4. Schelp L., Svanström L. 1996. The Swedish National Safety Promotion Program. Injury Prevention 1996;2:237-239.
5. Lindqvist K., Timpka T., Schelp L. 1996.Ten years of experiences from a participatory community-based injury prevention program in Motala, Sweden. Public Health 1996;110:339-346.
6. Lindqvist K., Timpka T., Schelp L., Åhlgren M. 1998. The WHO safe Community program for injury prevention: evaluation of the impact on injury severity. Public Health 1998; 112: 385-391.
7. Timpka T., Lindqvist K., Schelp L., Åhlgren M. 1999. Community-based injury prevention: effects on health care utilization. Int J of Epidemiology 1999;28:502-508.
8. Bjerre B., Schelp L. 1999. The Community Safety Approach in Falun, Sweden – Is it possible to characterise the most effective prevention endeavours and how long-lasting are the results? Acc Anal & Prev 2000;32:461-470.

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SAFE COMMUNITY VORARLBERG



Vorarlberg is the most western of the 9 Austrian federal provinces with about 380.000 inhabitants. In 1993 a pilot project was developed along the lines of the WHO "Safe Communities" model, with adapting this form of accident prevention to Austrian conditions and evaluating its effectiveness. The model was implemented under the name Initiative Sichere Gemeinden in 14 of the 96 municipalities of the Federal Province of Vorarlberg between 1993 and 1996, whereby there was success for the first time in securing all accident cost objectives for the financing.

In 1997 the project was extended to the whole province. The 96 municipalities of Vorarlberg are ranging from municipalities with only 150 inhabitants to cities with 40.000 inhabitants. The accident cost objectives have joined a voluntary, long term and institutional cooperation by establishing a "Safe Communities Project Fund" in order to provide resources to implement injury prevention programmes on the basis of local schemes. The range of projects of the Initiative Sichere Gemeinden are projects

in the sports-sector (for example inline-skating-courses and projects in football) over several projects in kindergartens and schools up to projects of injury-prevention for elderly at home. The evaluation made again in 2000 was concluded that the project was a success.

The WHO-designation will take place in the context of the 14th travelling seminar in Austria from the 10th of April to the 21st of April. In the evening of the 18th April there will be a large celebration with project partners and political representatives for the Vorarlberg project. The complete federal province will be honored by the "Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion" of the WHO as a safe Community in this evening. As part of the event children will introduce accident prevention actions and a senior theatre will make a short performance. In addition a new film about the Initiative Sichere Gemeinden will be presented. The event is also a possibility for an exchange of experience.

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