



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 thirty-ninth 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:

- **WORLD HEALTH DAY: 7th April 2004. World Health Organisation.**
- **COURSE: 6th M.P.H. Course on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden**

WORLD HEALTH DAY 2004 AND WORLD REPORT ON ROAD TRAFFIC INJURY PREVENTION

What is World Health Day?

World Health Day is an annual event held by the World Health Organization to mark the date of the establishment of the Organization. Traditionally, the day is held on 7th April every year. The World Health Organization uses World Health Day as the main tool to reach out and engage the general public in health messages. Essentially, this occasion is used to engage the international, national and local public in a health message that is known but neglected.

'Safe Roads' is the Theme for World Health Day 2004

A theme is selected annually for World Health Day. The theme selected for 2004 is 'Safe Roads'. This day will be observed on 7th April 2004. The objectives of the World Health Day 2004 are:

- a. To draw global attention to the growing but preventable human and economic costs of road traffic injuries.
- b. To advocate for increased and sustained action in policy, programmes, funding and research.
- c. To place road traffic injury prevention high on the agenda of governments, international organizations, development agencies, NGOs and the private sector.
- d. To launch the World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention.
- e. To build partnerships and collaboration for road traffic injury prevention.

Events will be organized around the world by governments, organizations and groups.

World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention

This report will be launched on 7th April 2004. This is the first major and authoritative report produced and issued by the World Health Organization. The World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention will be issued jointly by the World Health Organization and the World Bank. The main message of the report is that road traffic injuries are a major but neglected public health problem, requiring concerted efforts for effective and sustainable prevention. The report has five core chapters: Chapter 1 (Fundamental concepts), Chapter 2 (Global burden, intensity and impacts of road traffic injuries), Chapter 3 (Key determinants), Chapter 4 (Intervention strategies) and Chapter 5 (Conclusions and recommendations).

What can you do?

The World Health Organization invites and encourages as many persons, institutions and organization as possible to organize events around the theme of the World Health Day 2004. We urge you to start planning early for activities and invite you to share your ideas with us. [SEND US YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE WORLD HEALTH DAY 2004.](#)

Whom can you contact?

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6th M.P.H. Course on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

During 13 to 26 November 2002 the 6th M.P.H. Course on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion was held at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden. Before coming to Sweden the participants got the course literature and prepared a paper for pre-distance training. The aim of the course was to give basic knowledge of concepts and definitions, as well as epidemiology of intentional and unintentional injuries and surveillance system. Focus was on strategies and action plans for injury prevention and safety promotion in various settings at national, regional and local levels.

The course consisted of lectures; group works, seminars and a study visit to Borås Safe Community in Western Sweden. In groups with 2-3 persons, the course participants formulated policies, strategies and plans for implementation concerning some specific topics. Ten persons from eight countries and four continents participated: from Austria, Iran, Norway, Tanzania, Uganda, United Kingdom, U.S.A., and Sweden. The course examination resulted in three credit points.



L: Lecture at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm
R: Photos from study visit in Borås. Safety engineer Lennart Leveinsson, Borås, Rainar All, Sweden and Marcia Rom, Alaska (with the Safe Community wanderer teddy bear Curt on his way to an Alaskan safe school from Hestra Midgard safe school and its pupils)



L: Our nice pupil guides in Borås
R: International visiting group and our Borås hosts

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

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