

# **Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand**

*Submitted by:*  
Dr Carolyn Coggan, PhD

**Re-application for 'Affiliate' Safe Community  
Support Centre Status**

**September, 2007**

## INTRODUCTION

The Safe Communities Foundation of New Zealand (SCFNZ) has been established to work collaboratively with other key stakeholders to further support the development of community-based safety promotion and injury prevention. As such the SCFNZ community of interest is potentially the whole of New Zealand. The primary function of the SCFNZ is to increase the number and quality of accredited Safe Communities throughout New Zealand and internationally. A secondary function of the SCFNZ is to support the accreditation of Safe School Communities internationally.

SCFNZ is a not-for-profit national organisation that has been established with charitable trust status. The legal advisor for the SCFNZ is Chapman, Tripp. A Board of Trustees has also been established to provide governance, financial and strategic direction.

The SCFNZ has adopted the vision of the New Zealand Injury Prevention Strategy (NZIPS): *A safe New Zealand, becoming injury free.*

The goal of the SCFNZ is:

*To work collaboratively with communities, schools, industry and government agencies to improve safety through the creation of a sense of awareness, understanding, support and leadership to implement effective safety programmes, to create safe environments and to contribute to reducing the social and economic costs of injuries.*

The key objectives of the SCFNZ are to:

- 1) raise awareness of, advocate for, and support the development of safety promotion and injury prevention at local, national and international levels;
- 2) increase the number of community and school safety programmes through participation in networks and other collaborative opportunities;
- 3) facilitate access to regional data to identify groups at high risk of injury;
- 4) provide information and resources to improve knowledge of proven and promising community and school-based safety promotion and injury prevention strategies;
- 5) provide training and resources to support communities and schools to engage in safety promotion and injury prevention at local, regional, national and international levels;
- 6) provide evaluation training and support for the evaluation of Safe Communities and Safe Schools at local, national and international levels;
- 7) maintain links with, and participate nationally and internationally in, the accreditation of Safe Communities based on indicators as published by the

World Health Organisation (WHO) Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden; and

- 8) establish and apply criteria for the accreditation of Safe School Communities internationally.

To ensure that the SCFNZ is able to achieve its vision, goals and objectives, Associate Professor Carolyn Coggan was appointed as the Director of the SCFNZ in 2004. Carolyn has overall responsibility for the management and operation of the SCFNZ. In order to carry out the management of operational functions, the Director has appointed a team of relevant staff. The Director is accountable to the Board of Trustees and for the preparation of quarterly and annual reports for the Board of Trustees. Funding for the SCFNZ has been obtained from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC).

Dr Coggan was formerly the Director of the Injury Prevention Research Centre and an Associate Professor at the School of Population Health, University of Auckland. The IPRC during Dr Coggan's leadership was conferred as an Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre to the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety in April, 2000. SCFNZ under Dr Coggan's direction adopts a public health approach to evidence-based research and practice with the emphasis on prevention rather than treatment. Dr Coggan's portfolio documents her extensive expertise in the conduct of research, evaluation and advocacy related to both unintentional and intentional (suicide and violence) injury prevention, community and school safety. In her capacity as the Director of the SCFNZ, she is committed to supporting initiatives to reduce the human and social costs of injuries.

The SCFNZ has adopted a collaborative style to its work. As such, the SCFNZ Director, Trustees and staff, foster strategic partnerships with government agencies, industry, non-government groups and the wider community. The SCFNZ is a visible national champion in promoting community and school-based injury prevention and safety promotion. It provides an opportunity for all relevant stakeholders to increase action on injury prevention and safety promotion.

While the Safe Communities approach aims to address the injury burden for all ages and all environments, given the high injury burden among children, it has increasingly been recognised that a special focus on the school setting is warranted. Consequently the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion in conjunction with the International Safe Community Movement established a set of criteria for Safe Schools. However, to date there has been a low take-up of these criteria.

SCFNZ is a visible champion for the promotion of Safe Communities and Schools internationally and nationally. The SCFNZ was conferred as an Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre to the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety in March, 2005. In 2005, SCFNZ was also appointed as the

first Affiliate Support Centre with Certifying Authority of International Safe Schools (ISS). In September 2005 SCFNZ was designated as a first Certifying Centre of the International Safe Community Network. Additionally, SCFNZ has also secured the rights to distribute the New Zealand version of the Safe Communities Foundation of Canada's successful Passport to Safety programme.

This extension of our application has been prepared following a request from Professor Leif Svanstrom (email dated 17.8.07) and incorporates our existing Safe Community Affiliate Support Centre work with our new role in supporting Safe Schools internationally. It is based on the 10 indicators published on the Karolinska Institutet website ([www.phs.ki.se/csp/](http://www.phs.ki.se/csp/)) downloaded as at 28.8.2007. This application will be presented by describing how each aspect of SCFNZ works related to both Safe Community and Safe School addresses each of the criteria for Affiliate Support Centre Status. Information related to our Safe Community work is presented first, followed by our efforts related to Safe Schools.

## **1. PROVISION OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UTILISING MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND CROSS-SECTORAL APPROACHES.**

### **Communities**

While general injury and safety concerns are often recognised by communities as causes for concern, frequently such groups require evidence to indicate where injury prevention initiatives should be specifically focused. 'Safety' is a concept that is concerned with achieving a positive state of wellbeing among people within social and physical environments. It is as much concerned with a subjective dimension – the perception of safety – as it is with the objective dimension – the absence of injury. Therefore, to develop and nurture injury-free families/whanau, homes and communities it is necessary to address diverse perceptions of 'safety' and 'injury prevention' while simultaneously intervening to reduce the behavioural, environmental and sociological factors which produce injuries. The SCFNZ has adopted both a public health and community development approach to safety promotion and injury prevention.

Injury prevention activities cover broad fields of knowledge, including (for example) public health, environmental science, education, engineering, manufacturing, mental health, law, school settings and alcohol control issues. However, such information is rarely easily accessible to community stakeholders who wish to be involved in injury prevention activities. The SCFNZ supports a cross-sectoral and comprehensive approach to reducing the injury burden.

Until recently, safety promotion and injury prevention has largely focused on addressing the behaviour of the individual and their immediate environment. While informing the population of risk behaviours and environmental dangers is undoubtedly important, it does not necessarily follow that an educational message is sufficient to produce behavioural change. Facilitating a successful response to injury involves effective collaboration and coordination within and between communities of interest.

The SCFNZ has adopted a collaborative style to its programme of work which utilises both a multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral approach. For example, SCFNZ Director, Trustees and staff, foster strategic partnerships with government agencies, industry, non-government groups and the wider community. A wide range of key relationship and strategic partnerships have been formed including, but not limited to, the following:

#### **International level:**

- WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at Karolinska Institutet;
- Canadian Safe Communities Foundation;
- Australian Safe Communities Foundation;

- Safe Schools network;
- Safe Community Affiliate Support Centres;
- International injury research centres/units; and the
- Wider international injury prevention and Safe Communities network.

**National government level:**

- NZIPS secretariat;
- ACC;
- Ministries (e.g., Health, Local Government, Police, Transport, Social Development, Labour, Te Puni Kokiri, Justice, Pacific, Housing, Education);
- Other relevant government agencies (e.g., Alcohol Advisory Council, Land Transport New Zealand, New Zealand Fire Service);
- Territorial Local Authorities;
- Runanga;
- District Health Boards; and
- Public Health Units.

**National organisational level:**

- Injury Prevention Network of Aotearoa New Zealand;
- Injury Prevention non-government organisations (e.g., Safekids, Water Safe NZ, WaterSafe Auckland Inc);
- Other national non-government organisations (e.g., Plunket, Aged Concern, Federated Farmers, Drug Foundation of New Zealand, Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand; St John);
- Maori injury prevention organisations/groups;
- Industry and other businesses;
- Injury Prevention Research Unit;
- Injury Prevention Research Centre;
- Road Safety organisations/groups;
- Combined Trades Union and other union organisations;
- Employers' and Manufacturers' Associations; and other
- Professional Bodies and organisations.

**Regional/local level:**

- Local community injury prevention coalitions;
- Community injury prevention practitioners;
- ACC injury prevention consultants;
- Maori injury prevention coalitions;
- Road safety coordinators;
- Elected members and staff of local districts and councils;
- Pacific and other migrant group injury prevention coalitions;
- Industry and other businesses;
- Educational institutes, schools and the early childhood education sector;
- Marae and whanau groups;
- Police;

- Fire Service staff;
- Regional representatives of national government and non-government organisations (NGO's); and other
- Community and service groups.

The SCFNZ also strengthens and supports the creation of opportunities for contributing to the scientific basis and practice of community safety and injury prevention through its publications, interactions with government and non-government agencies, as well as the provision of training and resources to academics, policy-makers and practitioners.

## **Schools**

A 2002 World Health Report found that 2,973 children and young people die every day from injuries caused by accidents. Internationally, injuries are the leading cause of death for children aged between one to 18 years, with road traffic crashes and drowning being the two leading causes. For every one child who dies, there are several thousand victims of injury or violence who live with varying degrees of disability or psychological scarring.

While the Safe Communities approach aims to address the injury burden for all ages and all environments, given the high injury burden among children, it has increasingly been recognised that a special focus on the school setting is warranted. Consequently the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion in conjunction with the International Safe Community Movement established a set of criteria for Safe Schools. However, to date there has been a low take-up of these criteria.

The Safe School Community International Accreditation Programme (SSCIAP) has been developed to ensure that effective processes are available to support schools to improve and coordinate their safety promotion/injury prevention activities. The name has been chosen to reflect the fact that the Safe Schools concept emerged from the International Safe Communities Movement. It also reflects the international focus of safe schools and also its main activity, which is an accreditation process. However, it is acknowledged that for convenience, SSCIAP, is likely to be referred to as Safe Schools International. It has been developed following requests from schools and communities to provide a responsive mechanism to support their school safety efforts. It has been endorsed by Certifying Centres of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion and this application is a response to a request from Professor Leif Svanstrom.

At the Safe Communities Certifying Centre meeting in Tehran (June, 2007) it was agreed that all existing and future Certifying Centres of the International Safe Communities Networks will, if they so wish to, be able to accredit schools under

SSCIAP. The formal status for this is yet to be decided. It was further agreed that the Safe Communities Foundation of New Zealand, in conjunction with its strategic educational advisor Mr Graeme Barber (Principal, Woodend School), will be the initial driver for SSCIAP and develop the Safe School Community Steering Group and other necessary procedures to ensure that SSCIAP is fully operational by the end of September 2007. This timeframe will allow sufficient time for resource materials to be finalised, printed and ready for the 4<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference in Bangkok.

A draft charter for the Safe School Community International Accrediting Programme (SSCIAP) was developed and circulated to all Certifying Centres of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion for comment and review. Following this process the vision, mission, core beliefs, structure and principles were finalised and are presented below:

**Vision:**

To develop an inclusive, cooperative, strong Safe School Community that enhances the social, cultural, environmental and personal wellbeing of all its safe schools.

**Mission:**

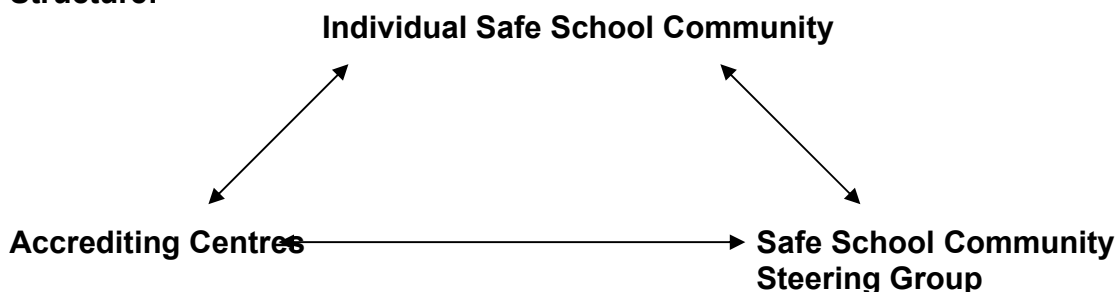
To develop, support and guide Safe Schools Communities world wide.

**Core beliefs underpinning the vision:**

Safe School Community will be a living expression of holistic, inclusive and empowering asset-based community development approaches through the promotion of:

- ⇒ Safety and wellbeing
- ⇒ Inclusion
- ⇒ Participation and partnerships
- ⇒ Honesty and respect
- ⇒ Celebrating strengths and successes
- ⇒ Appropriate, timely, respectful communications
- ⇒ Acknowledging and welcoming differences.

**Structure:**



## **Principles:**

### **Safe School Community**

- ⇒ Achieve accreditation by meeting set criteria
- ⇒ Apply for accreditation to an accrediting centre
- ⇒ Meet any costs of accreditation
- ⇒ Ongoing participation in SSCIAP and where relevant WHO CCCSP networks.

### **Accrediting Centres**

- ⇒ Support schools applying for accreditation
- ⇒ Conduct site visits and accreditation ceremonies
- ⇒ Determine when a school has met the set criteria
- ⇒ Maintain effective communication with steering group
- ⇒ Provide reports to the steering group
- ⇒ Actively participate in SSCIAP and WHO CCCSP networks.

### **Safe School Community Steering Group**

- ⇒ Comprised of representatives from each accrediting centre
- ⇒ Establishes the core beliefs, principles, and criteria
- ⇒ Establishes resources including standardised flags and plaques
- ⇒ Nominates one accrediting centre to maintain international website
- ⇒ Monitors consistency
- ⇒ Provides advice and support to accrediting centre
- ⇒ Receives reports from each accrediting centre
- ⇒ Ensures information sharing with ISS
- ⇒ Maintains liaison and links with the WHO CCCSP.

As previously stated, the SCFNZ is currently responsible for coordinating the Safe School Community Steering Group. With regard to its work to support the growth of safety within schools internationally, SCFNZ has developed an extensive network of collaborators from a range of countries including: Australia; Canada; Sweden; Korea; South Africa; America; Taiwan; Iran; China; Bangkok; Japan; Pacific region; Czech Republic; and Norway. This network keeps in regular contact providing support and sharing ideas. SCFNZ, has already supported the designation of four schools internationally and is currently supporting a further 10 schools to reach the criteria for designation. This has involved the development of the above charter to ensure effective processes are available to support schools to improve and coordinate their safety promotion/injury prevention activities.

SCFNZ also has an established track-record of utilising a multidisciplinary and collaborative approach to all its community safety efforts. In its capacity as both an existing Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre and Certifying Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, the SCFNZ, has

worked nationally and internationally on a range of injury issues: road safety, falls prevention, water safety, fire safety, suicide prevention, violence prevention, rural safety and alcohol and other drug misuse and has supported environmental changes, behavioural changes, legislation and advocacy to address a wide range of injury issues.

SCFNZ always adopts a collaborative style to its programme of work which utilises both a multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral approach. For example, SCFNZ Director, Trustees and staff foster strategic partnerships with government agencies, industry, non-government groups, education sector, schools, health sector, emergency services and members of the public. In its work with communities and schools SCFNZ adopts an asset based community development approach. This involves focusing on strengths and successes rather than deficiencies and problems. Within an asset based community development approach, actions are driven and owned by the community (including schools) rather than an outside agency. As participation is essential, this creates ownership and empowerment. Such an approach is relevant for school settings internationally.

## **2. PROVISION OF A FRAMEWORK FOR PROMOTING COLLECTIVE ACTION, WHICH INCLUDES INVOLVEMENT WITH COMMUNITY NETWORKS.**

### **Communities**

The SCFNZ supports the New Zealand Injury Prevention Strategy (NZIPS), launched in June 2003, which is an expression of the New Zealand Government's commitment to working with organisations and groups in the wider community to improve the country's injury prevention performance. SCFNZ staff have been instrumental in the development of NZIPS and its implementation plans. The NZIPS provides a strategic framework for injury prevention activity in New Zealand. The framework is a guide for action by a range of government agencies, local government, non-government organisations (such as the SCFNZ), communities and individuals. The SCFNZ by promoting the accreditation of Safe Communities geographically located throughout New Zealand will assist with achieving the NZIPS vision of: *A safe New Zealand, becoming injury free* and its goals of *developing a positive safety culture and safe environments* to be realised.

In an attempt to reduce the burden of injuries in New Zealand, in 2002 the ACC established 23 ThinkSafe Communities Projects (TCP). Staff from the SCFNZ have been involved with this initiative since its inception. The operational model for the TCP was designed to focus on core activities for each TCP region. The major stream in this model provided for: strategic partnerships; the building of community coalitions; strategic targeting; profiling, analysis and planning; and the implementation of prioritised interventions. Other key strategies included: facilitating employer involvement; use of the media; project performance monitoring; community capacity building; and consideration of the Treaty of Waitangi between Maori and the Crown. The ACC have indicated strong support for the need for the SCFNZ to further support the development and accreditation of communities working under the umbrella of ACC ThinkSafe. Additionally, recent discussions with a wide range of representatives from Territorial Local Authorities and individuals involved in community-based safety promotion and injury prevention initiatives, indicated that they were also very enthusiastic in their support for the SCFNZ support for the TCPs.

SCFNZ staff have also been involved in supporting the development of regional community injury prevention coalitions for the past 10 years. Recent highlights include:

- the accreditation of New Plymouth, Whangarei, Townsville-Thuringowa, Wellington, Northcott & North Shore Safe Communities;

- the re-accreditation of Melbourne, Hume, Waitakere, Manly, Mosman, Warringah, Pittswater and Waimakariri Safe Communities;
- participation in over 300 community safety promotion/injury prevention networking meetings during the past five years in which resources and/or training were provided to a wide range of participants;
- specific development and identification of strategies to address suicide in the general population and among young people (15-24 years);
- support for injury prevention initiatives for Maori and Pacific peoples;
- involvement in the inaugural National Awards' programmes for road safety initiatives;
- establishment, in conjunction with ACC, New Zealand Community Safety Awards
- support for the development of 23 ACC Thinksafe Communities geographically located throughout New Zealand; and
- delivery of targeted presentations highlighting the value of the Safe Community model to relevant communities with a demonstrated track-record of community-based injury prevention/safety promotion programmes in place.

As demonstrated by the above examples, the SCFNZ provides an effective framework for the promotion of collective action by a wide range of non-government and government agencies.

## **Schools**

SCFNZ on behalf of the SSCIAP, has established an effective framework to support the work of individual schools and accrediting centres, internationally. A Safe School Community Steering Group will be established to be responsible for coordinating the work of SSCIAP. Each accrediting centre will be invited to have representation on the Safe School Community Steering Group, with SCFNZ currently having the responsibility for coordinating this group. Additionally, at all relevant International Safe Community conferences, opportunities will be provided to further strengthen effective networking.

In its work to support the growth of safety within schools internationally, SSCIAP will develop an extensive network of collaborators from a range of countries including: Norway, Australia; Canada; Sweden; Korea; South Africa; America; Taiwan; Iran; China; and Bangkok. This network will keep in regular email

contact providing support and sharing ideas. Members of SSCIAP, have already supported the designation of four school internationally and are currently supporting a further 10 schools to reach the criteria for designation.

In its capacity as both an existing Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre and Certifying Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, the SCFNZ has a well established mechanism for supporting collaborative networks. A wide range of key relationships and strategic partnerships have been formed including, but not limited to, the following:

**International level:**

- WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at Karolinska Institutet;
- Canadian Safe Communities Foundation;
- Australian Safe Communities Foundation;
- Safe Schools network;
- Affiliate Support Centres;
- Certifying Centres;
- Asian Safe Communities Network;
- International injury research centres; and the
- Wider international injury prevention and Safe Communities and Safe School networks.

Each year, the SCFNZ conducts forums on preventing injuries and promoting safety for practitioners, educationalists, policy-makers and other key stakeholders. These forums are well attended and evaluations indicate that participants rate the content and delivery style very highly. In addition, the director of SCFNZ provides presentations and other resources on request to promote the collective action by a wide range of groups to support community and school safety.

Additionally, SSCIAP and SCFNZ will also strengthen and support the creation of opportunities for contributing to the scientific basis and practice of school safety and injury prevention through its publications, interactions with government and non-government agencies, as well as the provision of training and resources to academics, policy-makers and practitioners. For example, in November, 2007, representatives from SSCIAP will deliver, at the 4<sup>th</sup> Asian Conference, a training session on how to achieve the criteria for designation as Safe Schools.

### **3. CONSULTATIVE SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES & SCHOOLS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SAFE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.**

#### **Communities**

SCFNZ staff have been involved in providing consultative advice and support to communities both within New Zealand and in Australia in relation to the Safe Community model. SCFNZ staff have provided extensive consultative support to the following 21 New Zealand communities who are all interested in either accreditation and reaccreditation or the relevance of the Safe Communities model for their work: Whangarei; New Plymouth; Wellington; North Shore; Rodney; Manukau; Christchurch; Porirua; Waimakariri, Waitakere, Far North, Rotorua, Taupo, Napier, Hastings, Mangere, Franklin, Papakura, Whanganui, Gisborne, and Hutt City.

Other initiatives include but are not limited to the following:

- inclusion of the Safe Community model as part of the NZIPS;
- inclusion of the Safe Community model as an effective way to reduce the injury burden among policy-makers and practitioners through the publication of academic reports and articles (refer to Director's CV – copy attached);
- support for the further development of SafeKids initiatives;
- support for further development of Water Safety initiatives;
- support for inclusion of intentional (suicide and violence) injury prevention initiatives;
- comparison of the relevance of the Safe Community model for the ACC Thinksafe Community initiatives;
- provision of relevant information related to workplace safety within community settings;
- inclusion of the relevance of the Safe Community model in presentations at regional, national and international conferences and workshops;
- support for Australian community based injury prevention initiatives; and
- active membership of, and support for, the Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion based at the Karolinska Institutet and their associated Affiliate Support Centre networks for the past eight years.

SCFNZ staff have also developed a fact sheet which describes the criteria, processes and advantages of Safe Communities accreditation. This fact sheet has been widely disseminated throughout New Zealand and copies are able to be downloaded from the SCFNZ website ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)).

In addition, SCFNZ staff are currently in the process of developing 'A Guideline for Safe Communities in New Zealand'. This resource will be based on the Safe Community model and an adaptation of guidelines previously developed for Canadian and Australian audiences. Once finalised the resource will be widely disseminated to interested communities. It will also be available on the SCFNZ website ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)) for other national and international audiences.

## **Schools**

Collectively, members of SSCIAP have demonstrated their outstanding ability in the past to provide consultative support to Safe Schools Internationally. This has involved providing strategic advice to the international network of safe communities in relation to its safe schools commitments. For example, Graeme Barber has been an educationalist for 35 years, with the last 16 as a Primary School Principal. Within the Waimakariri District Council (a World Health Organisation Safe Community) a wide range of local initiatives increased awareness of, and the need for, a safety culture. The "champions" of these initiatives willingly shared their experiences and acted as mentors and critical friends throughout the development of Woodend School as a safe school. The school, during this process, successfully developed a safety culture based on current research and best practice with parents and staff participating in its development. Woodend School believes that through a commitment to community development approaches a sustainable safe learning culture can be developed. Graeme's vision is to create a school that provides the best learning possible for all (students, parents and staff) within the safest emotional and physical environment while developing life-long learners and thinkers best prepared to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Tania Peters, strategic advisor for SCFNZ has been closely involved in the provision of strategic support to all school interested in improving safety. This has involved presentations at national and international conferences and meetings, development of resource material, conduct of site visits and attendance at designation ceremonies. Tania has also developed considerable expertise in providing practical advice and tools for school in a timely manner to help them reach the criteria for designation.

SCFNZ on behalf of the SSCIAP Safe School Community Steering Group is also currently in the process of developing a standalone website to better support the accreditation of safe schools internationally. Having an up-to-date website is essential for an international movement. The effective maintenance of the website is a proven strength of SCFNZ staff.

In its capacity as both an existing Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre and Certifying Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, the SCFNZ, has a well established sound reputation for its support of

safe schools and encouragement of safe school initiatives. The Director of SCFNZ is already recognised internationally and nationally as a leader in this field and is often called upon to provide strategic advice and consultative support to schools embarking on their journey towards safe school accreditation.

#### **4. FACILITATE AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY & SCHOOL BASED STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESSES.**

##### **Communities**

SCFNZ staff have a long track-record of providing relevant injury data to support the evidence-based approach for community-based strategic planning for injury prevention and safety promotion. In addition to providing an analysis of injury data, SCFNZ staff also support communities in the interpretation and relevance of the data for their community strategic plans. Recent injury data reports can be downloaded from the SCFNZ website ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)). Other data reports can also be accessed from the IPRC website ([www.auckland.ac.nz/ipc/](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/ipc/)). SCFNZ have also developed and widely disseminated 'A Guide to Developing a Safe Community', 'International Safe School Guideline NZ version' and 'Guidelines for Conducting Evaluations'. All are available on the SCFNZ website ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)).

Additionally, SCFNZ staff provide:

- resources to promote best practice in community-based injury prevention and safety promotion programmes;
- networking opportunities both at local and national levels;
- strategic advice on community development;
- expertise in the conduct of evaluation; and
- encouragement for the appropriate documentation and dissemination of community-based initiatives.

At the local level, SCFNZ staff also provide each community of interest with a presentation which focuses on the necessary components for effective strategic planning for community-based injury prevention and safety promotion initiatives. Each presentation includes information on: the injury burden (at national and regional levels); the scientific basis for injury control; evidence related to the effectiveness of the Safe Community model; the value of evaluation and monitoring for strategic planning; and the need for community involvement in a strategic and coordinated way. Follow-up workshops are also held with key stakeholders from relevant community organisations. These workshops focus on refinement of goals, objectives and evaluation processes. SCFNZ staff are also available on an "as needs basis" to support strategic planning processes to any injury prevention community/coalition.

Additionally, a further role of the SCFNZ is to facilitate and support community-based injury prevention and safety promotion opportunities with all relevant

organizations (e.g. government, non-government, industry, researchers, policy-makers).

## **Schools**

Not only does SCFNZ provide effective tools and training for communities (including schools) to develop their own strategic safety plans, it also provides relevant data. For example, both school and community guidelines have been developed, data has been analysed and presented in a format accessible to the community, sample questionnaires have been developed to support the collection of baseline information, contributions have been made to the establishment of an injury prevention database, and an evaluation manual has been produced. Further services provided include:

- ⇒ Resources to promote best practice in community and school-based injury prevention;
- ⇒ Networking opportunities at local, regional, national and internationally levels;
- ⇒ Strategic advice on asset-based community development;
- ⇒ Expertise in the conduct of evaluation;
- ⇒ Encouragement for the appropriate documentation and dissemination of school and community-based initiatives.

While there currently exists a large number of initiatives focused on improving the health and well-being of students, the way that such initiatives support a coordinated and systematic approach to school safety planning is unclear. The approach adopted by SSCIAP is to support a cross-sectoral, collaborative approach to school safety by bringing as many stakeholders together to examine the data/information and to make choices on how they (given the particular situations of that schools environment) could change to improve safety.

In its capacity as both an existing Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre and Certifying Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, the SCFNZ, has a well established track record of providing relevant tools to support the evidence-based approach for community and school-based strategic planning for injury prevention and safety promotion. At the international level, SCFNZ have contributed significantly to Safe Communities and Safe Schools. SCFNZ will use this experience to further inform SSCIAP.

## **5. DEMONSTRATION OF LEADERSHIP AND STEWARDSHIP IN ADDRESSING PRIORITY INJURY ISSUES, HIGH RISK AND VULNERABLE GROUPS.**

### **Communities**

SCFNZ Director, Dr Carolyn Coggan is recognised both nationally and internationally as a leader with expertise in injury prevention and safety promotion. For example, Dr Coggan meets bi-monthly with relevant government Ministers to advance the evidence-base for injury prevention and safety promotion throughout New Zealand. Additionally, she has been a member of the Accident Compensation Corporation, Injury Prevention Advisory Council for the past five years. This Council informs the direction ACC takes in regard to its injury prevention programmes. The ACC is the lead agency in this country to reduce injury and to provide rehabilitation and compensation.

Dr Coggan was also responsible for the inaugural establishment of the Injury Prevention Network of Aotearoa New Zealand (IPNANZ). This network supports networking and collaboration primarily between the non-government sector.

Dr Coggan was the Director of the Injury Prevention Research Centre, University of Auckland prior to establishing the SCFNZ. In this role, Dr Coggan was responsible for a programme of research to address injury prevention among the general population and within high risk ethnic groups. Initiatives include but are not limited to the following:

- an investigation of child restraint seatbelt use in motor vehicles by Maori in Northland;
- evaluation of the Ngati Porou Community Injury Prevention Project;
- evaluation of the Turanganui-a-Kiwa Community Injury Prevention Project;
- Tai Rawhiti injury monitoring manual Turanganui-a-kiwa and Ngati Porou Rohe;
- descriptive analysis of an iwi injury prevention survey;
- Kia Piki te Ora Taitamariki evaluation;
- Safer Rohe Evaluation;
- the mentally health schools initiative;
- TRAVELLERS – a school based early intervention programme helping young people manage and process change, loss and transition;
- THINKSAFE and school injury prevention resource;
- association between bullying and mental health status among a sample of 3.265 New Zealand adolescents;

- the role of alcohol for fall-related injury resulting in hospitalisation among 16-29 year olds;
- preventing falls and fall-related injuries among older people living in institutions: current practice and future opportunities;
- it's all about Whakapapa: Maori Community Injury Prevention;
- young Pacific suicide attempts – a review of Emergency Department medical records;
- research into programmes to prevent intentional injury and violence to children; and
- young people's experience of recovery and well-being following a suicide attempt.

SCFNZ will continue to support the development and delivery of evidence-based injury prevention and safety promotion by and for Maori and Pacific peoples. For example, SCFNZ staff, are providing support for recognition of programmes focused on the development of a road safety culture for the Tongan Church Community in Waitakere City. The support provided will ensure that key individuals involved in this programme are able to attend the national Road Safety Innovative Awards ceremony at Wellington. SCFNZ staff are also supportive of the further development of the Safer Rohe programme. This initiative is targeted within four regions of New Zealand and adopts a 'by Maori, for Maori' philosophy. It is a community-based multi-disciplinary collaborative approach between iwi and the ACC.

## **Schools**

Schools provide a unique opportunity for injury prevention messages in an environment conducive to learning. Schools are also an important part of the wider community. Research has also highlighted that if children and young people value safety, that they will be more likely to act in a safe manner when risky situations arise. However, all children and young people need to have an age-appropriate understanding of what safe behaviour is and how to avoid injury. All members of SSCIAP recognise that safety and injury prevention within school settings needs to focus on:

- 1) Changing unsafe environments: For example, the use of impact absorbent material under climbing equipment provides protection from injury irrespective of whether the student slipped, was pushed, was attempting a risky manoeuvre, or was engaged in the activity without supervision.
- 2) Changing unsafe behaviours. For example, developing skills for the safe use of climbing equipment, teaching students how to fall safety, and providing supervision.

- 3) Changing unsafe attitudes. For example, teaching children to value safety and critically consider risk.

SSCIAP will provide leadership to ensure that an inclusive, cooperative, strong Safe School Community develops, that enhances the social, cultural, environmental and personal wellbeing of all its safe schools. It will also have mechanisms in place to support a focus on the needs of children from high risk communities. As with any international movement, the focus of SSCIAP will be determined by the collective input and priorities of member countries.

The Director of SCFNZ is already recognised internationally and nationally as an effective leader in the field of community safety. SCFNZ, in its capacity as both an existing Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre and Certifying Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, also has a well established sound reputation for its support of safe schools and safe communities. SCFNZ, its director, staff and associates are committed to providing leadership and stewardship to support and guide Safe Schools world wide.

## **6. PROVISION OF EXPERT SERVICES AND KNOWLEDGE IN THE AREA OF INJURY DATA INJURY SURVEILLANCE ISSUES**

### **Communities**

SCFNZ staff recognise that the provision of injury data is an essential tool for assessing the effects of community-based programmes. It is also vital for the identification of groups at high risk of injury within specific communities. Consequently, SCFNZ have provided injury profile reports for selected communities. All can be downloaded from the SCFNZ website ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)). The objectives of these reports are to:

1. provide routinely collected baseline data which can be used to identify injury prevention related needs and issues for the community;
2. provide routinely collected data on a ward-by-ward basis to enable identification of high risk local areas;
3. collect data to enable comparisons over time; and
4. ensure that the data is presented in a meaningful manner to assist in the development of a strategic plan for injury prevention for the community.

The sources of information utilised to develop these community injury profiles came from a wide variety of sources, including:

- routinely collected injury statistics from the New Zealand Health Information Service (NZHIS) related to injury deaths and hospitalisations for the communities;
- New Zealand Census data from Statistics New Zealand;
- Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) data; and
- Land Transport Safety Authority (LTSA) data..

The standard population used in the calculation of age-standardised rates is Segi's world population. All data was analysed using SAS Version 9.0 in Windows. Injury data were sourced from the NZHIS Minimum Dataset. Injury deaths and hospitalisations caused by medical misadventure, adverse effects, and late effects were excluded from the analysis. Injury hospitalisation records were selected for patients who were admitted overnight to hospital with a primary diagnosis of injury. Cases were only included if the patient survived the injury, and if the admission was the first hospitalisation for this injury. As changes were made to the definition of ethnicity in 1995, 1996 is the beginning of a new time series for ethnicity data. Therefore all ethnicity statistics for injury death data in these documents refer only to the period from 1996 onwards. These reports also present injury data at the ward level. Injury data for the wards were compiled by using the domicile code recorded for the injured person's place of residence.

The ACC data is taken from a summary of entitlement claims data for the community as prepared by ACC Scheme Analysis. The data excludes claims lodged with Private Insurers. An entitlement claim is one where payment is made for entitlement other than medical treatment, such as weekly compensation, independence allowance, and social rehabilitation. The LTSA data are taken from Motor Vehicle Crashes in New Zealand; Road Safety Atlas; and Travel Survey Report. It should be noted that not all motor vehicle crashes are reported to the Police; therefore LTSA figures underestimate the burden of injury due to motor vehicle crashes in New Zealand.

SCFNZ staff have received positive feedback from community injury prevention practitioners, who state that *“the injury data profile reports are extremely helpful in identifying need”*. Currently, injury profile reports are provided to those communities who have expressed a strong commitment in working towards International Safe Community accreditation.

SCFNZ staff have also conducted research to identify the determinants of injury. SCFNZ staff facilitates dissemination of relevant evidence on injury determinants to communities. For example, SCFNZ staff have conducted systemic reviews for specific types of injuries. The SCFNZ website also contains links to relevant websites to further facilitate dissemination of evidence-based research and information on the injury burden.

## **Schools**

As previously stated, SCFNZ has an established reputation in the provision of expert services and knowledge in the area of injury data. Since its inception it has provided localised community data in a meaningful manner to assist in the development of strategic plans for injury prevention for the community. The sources of information utilised to develop these community injury profiles came from a wide variety of sources, including: routinely collected injury statistics from the New Zealand Health Information Service (NZHIS) related to injury deaths; New Zealand Census data from Statistics New Zealand; Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) data; and Land Transport Safety Authority (LTSA) data.

With regard to SSCIAP, the degree to which individual accrediting centres will be able to provide meaningful data to individual schools will be reliant on the quality of the national data services. While in New Zealand there is a high standard of injury data available, this is not always the case. SSCIAP as an international organisation is committed to working collaboratively to improve injury surveillance at local, national and international levels.

## **7. DEMONSTRATION OF A LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING SAFE COMMUNITIES/SCHOOLS AND THE SAFE COMMUNITY NETWORK WITHIN THEIR ORGANISATIONS STRATEGIC PLAN.**

### **Communities**

The unique value of establishing the SCFNZ is the accreditation of communities currently engaged in safety promotion/injury prevention (and in some cases crime prevention and/or alcohol and other drug misuse) initiatives. An accreditation process provides, not only support for communities, but an indication of a level of achievement within the field of safety promotion and injury prevention. Although the SCFNZ has offices geographically located within the Auckland region, SCFNZ resources and staff will be available to support community groups, ACC and other government and non-government agencies/organizations, TLA, industry and businesses throughout New Zealand to reach the standard for accreditation.

With regard to the SCFNZ objectives outlined in the introduction section of this document the following paragraphs highlight the long term commitment of the SCFNZ support to existing as well as emerging International Safe Communities.

To address objective one, the Director and staff will use every avenue that currently exists to promote the services provided by the SCFNZ. SCFNZ representatives will also attend all relevant international, national and regional conferences and meetings to raise awareness of, and advocate for, the further development of safety promotion and injury prevention.

To address objectives two, four and five, the SCFNZ will continue to develop relevant injury prevention and safety promotion resources. The SCFNZ also provides individually tailored training on an *“as needs basis”* to support communities wishing to apply for accreditation as Safe Communities. As it is important for the SCFNZ to demonstrate a commitment to working in partnership with Maori to address injury prevention and safety promotion at this stage, SCFNZ staff are guided by Maori representatives on the SCFNZ National Advisory Group, the Maori cultural manager at ACC and the IPNANZ National Maori Advisor. Financial support for the conduct of community forums on injury prevention and safety promotion also occurs. A series of relevant fact sheets and a community resource directory are being produced by the SCFNZ. Additionally, the SCFNZ staff visits local regions to add their support and expertise for the establishment or expansion of community initiatives.

To address objective three, the SCFNZ staff will facilitate access to regional injury data by liaising with the relevant research units, the ACC, the Ministry of Health and the Injury Information Manager based at Statistics New Zealand.

SCFNZ staff assist with the interpretation of injury data and provides assistance with the preparation of regional injury data reports.

To address objective six, SCFNZ staff have developed and disseminated an evaluation training and support. An evaluation training manual has been developed by the SCFNZ. SCFNZ staff are also working with other relevant international and national groups to ensure that an appropriate list of impact indicators for measuring changes in community safety at local and national levels is established. The SCFNZ staff are available to conduct evaluations of specific community-based injury prevention initiatives on an “*as needs basis*”.

To address objective seven SCFNZ staff maintain a close and good working relationship with the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at the Karolinska Institutet in Sweden. Active participation in the Affiliate Support Centre network for community safety is also being maintained. SCFNZ Director is also available to accredit Safe Communities internationally. Additionally, SCFNZ staff and possibly Trustees, attend relevant international conferences to ensure that the profile of the SCFNZ is enhanced and to ensure that those involved with the SCFNZ are kept fully up to date with new developments.

Information related to object eight, Safe Schools is provided under a separate heading.

The key service deliverables established for the SCFNZ are:

- relevant dissemination of information on the services provided by SCFNZ to a minimum of 1000 New Zealand groups and organisations.
- attendance at a minimum of 20 networking meetings per annum to support the development of community safety programmes throughout New Zealand.
- respond to requests for regional data support. At a minimum, support for communities wishing to access regional injury data is being provided to selected communities applying for accreditation status as New Zealand and/or International Safe Communities.
- develop and disseminate information on injury determinants and proven or promising safety promotion and injury prevention strategies for both the injury priority areas of the NZIPS and other relevant injury areas.
- respond to requests for training and support. Regional training is being provided to selected communities applying for accreditation status as New Zealand and/or International Safe Communities.
- respond to requests for evaluation training and support. Regional evaluation training and support is being provided to selected communities applying for accreditation status as New Zealand and/or International Safe Communities.

- to support a minimum of three New Zealand communities per annum achieving accreditation status as New Zealand and/or International Safe Communities.
- respond to requests for participation in Safe Communities nationally and internationally, including the accreditation of Safe Communities.

The above activities indicate the commitment of SCFNZ to provide a sustainable resource to support the Safe Community network at the local, national and international level. As demonstrated throughout this proposal SCFNZ activities also support communities to incorporate effective injury prevention and safety promotion strategies into their strategic plans.

### **Schools**

SCFNZ is a visible champion for the promotion of Safe Communities and Schools internationally and nationally. The SCFNZ was conferred as an Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre to the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety in March, 2005. In 2005, SCFNZ was also appointed as the first Affiliate Support Centre with Certifying Authority of International Safe Schools (ISS). In September 2005, the SCFNZ was conferred as the first Certifying Centre of the International Safe Community Movement. Additionally, SCFNZ has also secured the rights to distribute the NZ version of the Safe Communities Foundation of Canada's successful Passport to Safety programme. The commitment of SCFNZ to improving safety and strengthening networks is well established and sustainable.

## **8. SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL MEMBERS TO UTILISE APPROPRIATE INDICATORS TO EVALUATE COMMUNITY PROCESSES, EFFECTS OF CHANGE AND INJURY RATES.**

### **Communities**

Prior to establishing the SCFNZ in December 2004, Carolyn was the Director of the Injury Prevention Research Centre, and an Associate Professor at the School of Population Health, University of Auckland. Carolyn's areas of research expertise include injury prevention, adolescent health, suicide prevention and the evaluation of community interventions. For the past 20 years Carolyn has worked towards combining community safety and injury prevention. Carolyn is a strong believer in providing evidence-based research and evaluation to inform the development of effective community and school strategies to improve health, safety and well-being. Carolyn's approach is to work collaboratively with community groups, government agencies, health and education professionals to influence policy, promote community safety, enhance the quality of life, and reduce the human and social costs of injuries.

SCFNZ supports those responsible at the community level to utilise appropriate indicators to evaluate community processes, effects of change and injury rates by providing:

- Comprehensive reports to communities seeking Safe Communities accreditation incorporating data from:
  - routinely collected injury statistics from the New Zealand Health Information Service related to injury deaths and hospitalisations for communities of interest;
  - New Zealand Census data from Statistics New Zealand;
  - Land Transport Safety Authority (road and non-road transport crashes); and
  - Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) (costs and claims relating to injuries).

These reports provide:

- routinely collected baseline data which can be used to identify injury prevention related needs and issues each community;
  - routinely collected data on a Ward-by-Ward basis to enable comparisons by areas;
  - routinely collected data to enable comparisons over time; and
  - the data in a meaningful manner to assist in the development of a strategic plan for injury prevention for each community.
- Presentations to community forums which include information relating to the use of scientific approaches to develop strategic plans and also stress the

importance of process, impact and outcome evaluations for their injury prevention and safety promotion initiatives, to facilitate programme management and delivery.

Communities have provided positive feedback on the usefulness, clarity and appropriateness of the resources provided by SCFNZ staff. They consider that because these resources are targeted to their individual communities they have been able to respond to community concerns and interests while still utilising a scientific approach.

Additionally, SCFNZ has developed an evaluation manual which forms the basis for support communities to utilize appropriate indicators to evaluate its processed and outcomes in order to bring about effective change and a downturn in injury rates at the community level.

## **Schools**

The SCFNZ will continue to serve as a 'primary resource' globally and nationally for community-based injury prevention and safety promotion programmes both within communities and schools by: providing ongoing support; outlining the value of the Safe Community model; developing and disseminating relevant resources including, providing copies of completed Safe Community and SSCIAP applications; conducting assessments of applications in an appropriate and respectful way; conducting site visits; and working with the applicant communities and schools to ensure that all Safe Community and SSCIAP indicators are met to a high standard, before such communities or schools are designated as Safe Communities. SCFNZ have well documented procedures for Safe Communities and SSCIAP certification processes, including guidelines related to the appropriate management of sensitive information. SCFNZ's policy is to make all relevant information related to Safe Communities and SSCIAP programmes and designation process as accessible to as wide an audience as possible (i.e. available on the two relevant websites). In addition, all SCFNZ staff are required by New Zealand Law to comply with the Privacy Act 1993.

In addition, to the considerable expertise of SCFNZ Director (Dr Carolyn Coggan) all SCFNZ staff have worked in the field of injury prevention and safety promotion for a minimum of eight years. The staff have relevant academic qualifications (PhD, MA, BHs, DPH) and receive additional professional development on an "as needs" basis. SCFNZ will also ensure that, when necessary, staff complete all relevant training requirements associated with Affiliate Support Centre status, as defined by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Safety Promotion. Although the personnel involved in the conduct of site visits will change to reflect the content and context of the Safe Community or SSCIAP, all will have relevant expertise and experience in the field of injury prevention and community based safety promotion. Additional knowledge will be provided by the Director of SCFNZ.

SCFNZ supports those responsible at the school level to utilise appropriate indicators to evaluate community processes, effects of change and injury rates by providing:

1. Presentations to community forums and school Boards of Trustees which include information relating to the use of scientific approaches to develop strategic plans and also stress the importance of process, impact and outcome evaluations for their injury prevention and safety promotion initiatives, to facilitate programme management and delivery.
2. Presentations to schools and organisations working with youth to encourage the take-up of the Passport to Safety programme a web-based, self-paced learning and test programme aimed at young people who are preparing to enter the workforce for the first time.

Schools have provided positive feedback on the usefulness, clarity and appropriateness of the resources provided by SCFNZ staff. They consider that, because these resources are targeted to their individual communities or schools, they have been able to respond to community and school concerns and interests while still utilising a scientific approach.

As evident throughout this application, all those associated with SSCIAP have a commitment to the accrediting process, including, but not limited to, the systematic recording of communities and schools engaged in the designation process, the conduct of site visits, the recording of reports and original observations, preparation of designation certificates and plaques, and participation in designation ceremonies.

## **9. DISSEMINATION OF EXPERIENCES BOTH AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS.**

### **Communities**

The SCFNZ staff have strongly supported the network of Safe Communities over the past 14 years. Dr Coggan has been an active member of the Affiliate Support Centre Safe Community Network and has attended many International Safe Community conferences and provided papers and keynote addresses. Dr Coggan has also been a member of the scientific advisory committee for the international injury prevention and control conferences on many occasions. Dr Coggan always actively participates in such conferences.

SCFNZ staff have also attended all national Australian Injury Prevention Conferences held so far. In addition, Dr Coggan has provided support for the development of the Australian Safe Communities Foundation and has been involved in supporting the accreditation and reaccreditation of several Australian communities.

The SCFNZ has adapted and built on the established models, resources and criteria of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, the Affiliate Support Centre Safe Community Network and the Canadian Safe Communities Foundation to support the further development of relevant resources for community safety. Additionally, a close and collaborative working relationship has been established with key individuals involved in the Australian Safe Communities Foundation. SCFNZ staff will build on the existing expertise at all levels to further advance the international and national academic knowledge base of community-based injury prevention and safety promotion.

SCFNZ staff has also played a pivotal role in the planning and conduct of New Zealand Injury Prevention Conferences since the inaugural conference in Waitakere City in 1999. At this first conference the accreditation of Waitakere City as a Safe Community was held. Dr Coggan has been a keynote speaker at many New Zealand conferences during the past 18 years.

Ongoing active participation of SCFNZ staff in networking opportunities related to the development of a scientific base for the Safe Community model ensures that the transfer of knowledge across and within international and national communities occurs.

### **Schools**

All members currently involved with the SSCIAP have established mechanisms for the dissemination of their safe school and safe communities experiences both nationally and internationally through presentations, conferences, meetings, peer

review articles, newsletters, site visits and websites. In addition all accrediting centres of SSCIAP will have a responsibility to provide reports to the Safe School Community Steering Group. The Steering Group will then have the responsibility to ensure that all dissemination processes are respectful and transparent. The Steering Group will also be responsible for maintaining liaison and links with the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion.

Members of SSCIAP will also be offering training sessions at relevant conferences to ensure that experiences are shared between individual schools and accrediting centres. Additionally, the SSCIAP website ([www.safeschoolciap.org](http://www.safeschoolciap.org)) will be available for dissemination of experiences, initiatives developed, and successes and will provide a link to other relevant organisations/groups. As SSCIAP continues to grow, the focus will increasingly be on peer-reviewed scientific publications in various journals.

## **10. OUTLINE OF SAFE COMMUNITY & SAFE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESEARCH EFFORTS.**

### **Communities**

The SCFNZ supports accessible and systematic dissemination of relevant knowledge and experience in injury prevention and safety promotion. For example success measures determined for the SCFNZ include:

- an increase in the number of regions adopting the Safe Community model;
- an increase in the number of New Zealand communities being awarded Safe Community accreditation;
- increases in the number of individuals/organisations participating in the Safety Awards;
- an increase in government acceptance of community-based injury prevention as an important component to reducing the injury burden throughout New Zealand;
- improvements in injury and community safety indicators by New Zealand Safe Communities compared with other comparable communities and national trends; and
- reductions in the injury burden (numbers, rates, costs and claims as measured by NZHIS and ACC data) by New Zealand Safe Communities compared with other comparable communities and national trends.

A website (with appropriate links) to allow for the downloading of all materials produced by the SCFNZ has been developed ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)). The SCFNZ website ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)) is widely promoted at all community forums as well as being promoted in all SCFNZ fact sheets, reports and pamphlets. This has resulted in many visits to the SCFNZ website ([www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)). As demonstrated throughout this document SCFNZ adopts an open and transparent approach to the dissemination of information related to community-based injury prevention and safety promotion at local, national and international levels.

### **Schools**

SCFNZ anticipates that the SSCIAP steering group activities will include, but not be limited to the following:

- ⇒ Development of website,
- ⇒ Reviewing core beliefs, principles and criteria,
- ⇒ Creating resources including standardised plaques and certificates,
- ⇒ Maintaining liaison and links with the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion,
- ⇒ Monitoring consistency,
- ⇒ Providing advice and support to accrediting centres,

- ⇒ Raising awareness both nationally and internationally of the value of SSCIAP, and
- ⇒ Increasing the number of accredited Safe School Communities world wide.

SCFNZ anticipates that the SSCIAP steering group research activities will include, but not be limited to the following:

- ⇒ Case studies of successes and barriers to achieving SSCIAP;
- ⇒ Individual and aggregated safe schools international data;
- ⇒ Evaluation of the benefits to schools of achieving SSCIAP status.

## **CONCLUSION**

SCFNZ has been a strong supporter of Safe Communities nationally and internationally over the past 14 years. SCFNZ pledges its continued support in terms of research and advice to all communities and schools that seek support for injury prevention and safety promotion initiatives.

SCFNZ is grateful to the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Community Safety for providing this opportunity to extend its existing Affiliate Centre status to now also include a focus on Safe Schools. SCFNZ looks forward to further supporting the accreditation and reaccreditation of safe communities and safe schools internationally as an effective way to reduce the burden of injury.