

Safety On The Shore

Newsletter Number 1
June 2005



The Newsletter Is Back!!

Welcome to the first edition of the new ShoreSafe newsletter. This monthly publication will provide updates of Injury Prevention activities on the North Shore. We hope to include snapshots of local projects, recognition for individuals and organisations contributing to ShoreSafe, local statistics and progress reports on our journey towards accreditation. Please feel free to contribute to the newsletter by contacting:

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VISION DAY A GREAT SUCCESS

With approximately 60 people in attendance and some excellent presentations, our recent ShoreSafe Vision and planning day was a great success. A big thank you to everyone who presented and helped make everything run so smoothly on the day.

We had great support from the Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand. Dr Carolyn Coggan gave us an enlightening presentation about the statistics for injury on the North Shore. We certainly cannot afford to think that safety and injury prevention are not an issue for the North Shore!!!

Attendees on the day considered the possibility of becoming a World Health Organisation (WHO) accredited Safe Community and agreed that it is the way ahead for the North Shore. It was encouraging to see a number of people volunteer for a steering group to start this process.

Thanks again to everyone for your input. Let's keep up the momentum now and make North Shore City a safe place to live, work and play for everyone.

TODAY IN NEW ZEALAND

4 people will die from an injury.

125 people will be hospitalised for 24 hours or more following a serious injury.

4,000 will need medical treatment for an accident (ACC claim)

ACC will pay out \$5 million.

Our accident rate is one of the worst in the OECD!

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO) SAFE COMMUNITY ACCREDITATION

The following information is taken from the SCFNZ Factsheet Number 2.

A major outcome of the ShoreSafe Vision planning day was the community's agreement to strive for WHO Safe Community Accreditation. ShoreSafe will undertake this with support from the Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ).

Safe Communities is a World Health Organisation (WHO) concept that recognises safety as "a universal concern and a responsibility for all." This approach to safety promotion and injury prevention encourages greater cooperation and collaboration between non-government organisations, the business sector, central and local government agencies, and creatively mobilises local community members to action. The WHO Safe Communities model creates an infrastructure in local communities for addressing injury prevention initiatives through the building of local partnerships.

Criteria: WHO Safe Community

In order to be designated as a WHO Safe Community, communities are required to meet the following six criteria:

1. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community.
2. Long-term, sustainable programmes covering both genders and all ages, environments, and situations.
3. Programmes that target high-risk groups and environments, and programmes that promote safety for vulnerable groups.
4. Programmes that document the frequency and causes of injuries.
5. Evaluation measures to assess programmes, processes and effects of changes.
6. Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks.



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Playground Safety Success!!!!!!!

Ever wonder if our programmes are actually making a difference? One of our most recent successes on the Shore has been a 30 percent reduction in hospitalisations for falls from playgrounds between 2002 and 2003. The good work continues - in the last twelve months 106 teachers and principles have attended Geoff Wood's Workshops covering Safe At Play and Active Supervision and many caretakers have been involved in maintenance workshops. ShoreSafe Children are currently looking at options for a Public Playground Safety project.

Workplace Safety Recognition

As part of the Vision Day on the 1st June, Janferie Bryce-Chapman was presented with a certificate of accreditation for Age Concern's achievement of reaching tertiary level in ACC's Workplace Safety Management Programme. ACC's national Manager for the Community Delivery Team, Ray Campbell, acknowledged Age Concern's efforts in reaching the highest level of accreditation. "If a small organisation like Age Concern can do this, other larger organisations should also be able to" said Janferie. For more information on how your organisation can be involved in the WSMP programme, call 0800 THINKSAFE.

SHORES SAFE PERSON OF THE MONTH

Each month ShoreSafe would like to acknowledge an individual or organisation who has contributed significantly to our injury prevention or safety promotion efforts.

This month we would like to acknowledge the work of Geoff Wood, our "Playground Safety Man". Geoff is Principal of the Playground Institute and a teacher at Rosmini College. As well as presenting playground safety workshops throughout the Shore, Geoff is constantly looking for opportunities to spread the message of playground safety.

Geoff's workshops are always of a very high standard with opportunities for interaction and lots of great examples from Geoff's long involvement with playground safety. The workshops recognise the playground as an extension of the classroom and cover design, surfacing, equipment maintenance supervision and identifying and managing hazards.

Geoff also manages to engage his school students every year in promoting safety and links classroom activities to ShoreSafe. We are lucky to have a person with such extensive knowledge and experience working on the Shore. Thanks Geoff!

For more information on playground safety call Bridget Farmiloe (09) 9138856.

