



Australian Safe
Communities
Foundation

International Safe Community (ISC)

Annual Report (1 Jan – 31 Dec 2012)



Demographics

Name of your ISC: City of Palmerston Safe Communities Program

Total Population: 32,000 Residents

Country: Australia

Name, position and email contact details of person completing this annual report:

Amber Fuller, Safe Communities Co-ordinator

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Phone: (08) 8935 9919

Fax: (08) 8935 9900

Does your ISC have a website? If so, please provide web address

<http://www.palmerston.nt.gov.au/community-services/safe-communities>

Has your ISC produced any resources eg. pamphlets, fact sheets, presentations, etc. and provide copies?

During 2012 the following pamphlets, fact sheets and presentations were produced (where applicable resource copies, photos, and evaluations have been supplied as an attachment to this document):

Campaigns/ promotional items:

- A motor vehicle, mobile phone safety pledge titled 'I Answer to No One' (mobile phone pledge to address the issue of people answering phones whilst driving).
- Helmet and Bicycle Safety Poster (series of 3) displayed at Palmerstons new Waterpark opening day. The campaign included a colouring in competition of a child correctly and securely fitting their helmet on. The (2) winners each received a brand new helmet donated by Spokes NT and various safety brochures for their parents.
- Ongoing distribution of the Palmerston Safe Communities Postcard in collaboration with Safety House NT through distribution of community safety bags in Schools.
- 'Bounce-back' program – to address the safety concerns around road safety within the Palmerston region.

Workshops:

- A joint Cyber Safety Presentation in partnership with The Smith Family.
- A Volatile Substance Abuse Presentation (in partnership with Department of Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs Program and Amity).
- CPTED Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Workshop.



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- A collaborative Palmerston Safe Communities Strategic Plan Workshop.

Community Presentations:

- Palmerston Annual Festival – August 2012 (displays and water safety mascot 'Boof the Barra' appearance).
- Defence Community Expo – March 2012 (to promote Safe Communities Messages).
- National Children's Week – Local Library displays during October 2012 and story-time safety sessions with both Safety House NT and the Water Safety Branch.

Criteria 1 – Partnerships

1: Over the past 12 months have there been any significant changes to your ISC community coalition/network/group? **Yes / No**

If yes, please provide details of any key partnerships or stakeholders that have left and new ones that have come on board.

2: Please provide details of your current coalition membership list. Include name, email address and position/organisation for each coalition member.

Palmerston Safe Communities Committee:

***Email addresses and contact names upon request but not for public display.**

Name	Position / Title	Organisation	Email Address
Ian Abbott	Mayor (Chair of Committee)	City of Palmerston	
Lavinia Mills	Director	Kentish Family Day Care Incorporated	
Mickey Campbell	Manager	Victims Of Crime Nt	
Sue McKinnon	Aldermen	City Of Palmerston	
Ben Dornier	Director of Corporate and Community Services (Deputy Chair)	City Of Palmerston	
Amber Fuller	Safe Communities Coordinator	City of Palmerston	
Jan Peters	Manager of Community Development	City Of Palmerston	
Melinda Schroeder	Community Legal Education Project Officer	Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission	
Lesley Taylor	NT State Manager	NAPCAN Foundation	
Adrian McCann	Community Services Operations Manager	Mission Australia	
Alison Archibald	Senior Project Officer	Australian Competition And Consumer Commission	
Angie Walker	Electorate Officer for Lia Finocchiaro	Member for Drysdale	
Paul Turner	Senior Policy Officer – Alcohol & Other Drugs	Department Of Health And Families	
Steve Wheelhouse	Program Manager	Department Of Justice	
Michael Gragg	Darwin Regional Justice Project Officer	Department Of Justice	
Michelle Pinto	Coordinator	YWCA Of Darwin	
Peter Chandler	Member of NT Legislative Assembly	Electorate Of Brennan	



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Sharon Binns	Anti-Social Behaviour Officer	Territory Housing	
Peter Brown	Officer in Charge	Police, Fire and Emergency Services	
Rebecca Forrest	Alderman	City of Palmerston	
Leanne Shannon	Manager	YMCA of the Top End	
Tracy Middleton	Acting Sergeant – OIC Crime Prevention Unit	Police, Fire and Emergency Services, NT	
Aimee Tagell	Project Officer	Road Safety	
Wayne Richards	Housing Manager	Territory Housing	
Malcolm Richardson	Deputy Director North/Manager Racing	Department of Justice	
Judy Williams	Team Leader Client Support	Territory Housing	
Suzanne Seers	Safety House NT Coordinator	Neighbourhood Watch NT	
Daniel Sheen	Superintendent for the Palmerston & Rural area	NT Police	

3: How often has your community coalition met during the past 12 months? Attach any relevant meeting agenda, minutes, annual report and any other relevant documents that demonstrate the operation of your leadership group over the past year?

Palmerston Safe Communities Committee members met at Council on five separate occasions throughout 2012 as per the following dates:

- 11 April 2012, Palmerston Safe Communities Committee Meeting
- 27 June 2012, Palmerston Safe Communities Committee Meeting
- 29 August 2012, Palmerston Safe Communities Committee Meeting
- 11 October 2012, Palmerston Safe Communities Strategic Plan Workshop
- 28 November 2012, Palmerston Safe Communities Committee Meeting

4: Over the past 12 months have there been any changes to the way your ISC is funded? **Yes** / No. If yes, please provide details.

Palmerston Safe Communities program is currently funded by the department of Health (Office of Children and Families). Funding to supplement the Palmerston Safe Communities program was provided over a term of three years and due for renewal in June 2013. City of Palmerston will actively seek additional funding to facilitate and supplement the program within the future.

The City of Palmerston Council commits \$5000.00 per annum to compliment Palmerston Safe Communities programs, events and collaborative initiatives. The program has also been successful in obtaining additional funding to continue its injury prevention and safety promotion campaigns throughout Palmerston.

The program was awarded with a grant of \$10,000.00 to promote a program titled 'Operation Bounce Back'. City of Palmerston partnered with NT Police from the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) to run Operation Bounce Back from October 2011 to March 2012.



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Operation Bounce Back aimed to reduce car theft by promoting car safe messages and through the provision of 100 vouchers to have an immobiliser installed in their vehicle.

Additional funding of \$6,865.00 was awarded to the City of Palmerston by the Commonwealth Bank Community Staff Foundation. The title of the funded program is 'Safe Start for Palmerston City Schools' (SSPCS). These funds will assist with the delivery of Child Safety Australia's, Protective Behaviours messages to be implemented in the Palmerston region. City of Palmerston Safe Communities will commence its 'Safe Start Palmerston City School Kids' program on 29 April 2013 (School Term 2).

Safety kits will be available to all primary Schools in Palmerston, workshop participants and other non-profit organisations upon request. Participants will receive resources to compliment Safety and reinforce key safety messages to children, building self-esteem, respect and empathy, identifying and responding to unsafe situations, avoiding and stopping all forms of abuse and encouraging children to access help from trusted adults and organisations. The Safe Start program seeks to maximise safety and enhance the wellbeing of children and young people and encourage them to reach their full potential. Safe Start targets children aged 3 - 12 years. The Safe Start workshops are designed for adults who regularly interact with children and young people. By training adults, who are able to relay and reinforce the key safety messages, this specialised training has the potential to reach significant numbers of children to achieve lasting benefits.

The Safe Start program is based on the following underlying principles:

- Children and young people have a right to be safe and to feel safe.
- Child protection is a community responsibility and we all have a part to play.

Protective adults, particularly parents and carers, have a responsibility to protect children and young people from harm and to equip them with safety knowledge and skills.

- A healthy self-esteem is fundamental to self-protection and a person's ability to reach their full potential.
- To maximise their safety, children and young people must be equipped with an awareness of risks and empowered with strategies and skills to effectively respond to safety threats.

The programs were developed by Kim Jackson in 2008 to address the limitations, and build upon the strengths, of the international Protective Behaviours program. Safe Start expands on the traditional Protective Behaviours content, embraces additional key safety messages and enhances delivery methods to reflect current best practice guidelines in child protection.

The programs have been independently reviewed and found to be effective in



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providing prevention education to reduce the risk of victimisation for children and adolescents, including the various harmful behaviours.

For maximum success, the programs should be:

- implemented throughout the whole school or children's organisation;
- delivered by trained staff; and multi systemic, involving children, young people, their parents/carers and teachers.

Safe Communities are currently accepting expressions of interest for Teachers, Parents and Carers to participate in the sponsored Safe Start Coordinators workshops to be conducted during April and May 2013.

In addition 'Safe Start' sessions will be delivered to Schools and community organisations. Each of the nine Palmerston Schools and the Palmerston Public Library will receive a set of safety kit resources.

Criteria 2 – Sustainable programs

1: Over the past 12 months have there been any changes to your working groups/priority areas? **Yes / No**

If yes, please provide details (e.g. high profile incident, policy, political, personnel or funding changes and did this change result in improvements in reach, collaboration, sustainability, outcomes, etc)

During December 2012 the City of Palmerston on behalf of the Palmerston Safe Kids Network were provided with additional funding from the Commonwealth Bank as detailed above in Criterion 1.4.

The Palmerston Safe Kids Network is a valued and sustainable long-term program in its own right. The network forms its own annual 'Action Report' each calendar year and reports to the Palmerston Safe Communities on its achievements, programs, events and initiatives.

Membership to the Palmerston Safe Kids Network and meetings held throughout the year are noted below:

Name	Position	Organisation	E-mail Address
Angela Agostini	Manager	Child Youth and Family Health Community Health Branch, Department of Health	
Alison Archibald	Senior Project Officer	Australian Competition & Consumer Commission	
Narelle Calma	Community Engagement Officer	Red Cross	
Jacqui Dobson		Royal Life Saving Society NT	
Rachel Dunne	Team Leader Manager	Red Cross Communities For Children	
Lynn Finlay	Manager	Water Safety NT - Department Of Local Government , Sport and Recreation	
Angela Lockwood	Chief Executive Officer	Kidsafe NT	



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Chris McGill	Manager	Child Youth and Family Team	
Lavinia Mills	Director	Kentish Family Day Care Incorporated	
Leigh Munn	Family Coordinator	Moulden Park School and Neighbourhood Centre	
Trudie Norris	Community Connections Worker	Good Beginnings Australia	
Karen Wilson	School Support Services	Department of Education and Training	
Sheree Hammi	Program Coordinator	YWCA Parenting Program	
Suezanne Seears	Safety House NT Coordinator	Safety House NT/ NHWNT/ Senior Police Constable	
Wayne Van-Sambeek	Program Manager	Royal Life Saving Society NT	
Tess McPeake	Program Coordinator	The Smith Family	
Annette Magean	Coordinator	Amity Community Services Inc	

- 1 February 2012, Palmerston Safe Kids Network Meeting
- 11 April 2012, Palmerston Safe Kids Network Meeting
- 13 June 2012, Palmerston Safe Kids Network Meeting
- 1 August 2012, Palmerston Safe Kids Network Meeting
- 26 September 2012, Palmerston Safe Kids Network Meeting
- 5 December 2012, Palmerston Safe Kids Network Meeting

This network has an annual action plan in place that identifies the community needs of Palmerston's families and young children aged 0 – 12 years.

2: Please list at least three success stories from your program over the past 12 months? Provide details (e.g. what was the nature of the success, did it advance partnerships/relationships, ability to attract funds and what outcomes were achieved)

1. Volatile Substance Abuse Awareness Workshop
The evaluation to this workshop forms an attachment.
2. National Children's Week Events
Evaluation to these events forms an attachment.
3. Palmerston Safe Communities Strategic Plan Review
The evaluation to this review forms an attachment.

Criteria 3 – High risk groups & environments

Over the past 12 months, please specify what high risk groups/environments has your ISC focused on and details of outcomes achieved?

Children typically aged between 0 to 12 years old (or) low socio economic families of all ethnic backgrounds.



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2012 focussed on achieving greater community safety and security awareness in and around the home and neighbourhood. Topics and campaigns covered during 2012 were:

- 'Road & Drive Way Safety'
- 'Online Safety'
- 'Street Safety'
- 'Home Safety'
- 'Water Safety'
- 'Crime Prevention'
- 'Theft Reduction'

These (7) focus areas of safety aimed to combat the many issues facing our community neighbourhoods affecting vulnerable families.
Outcomes:

Below is a brief overview of outcomes achieved in relation to the main focus areas of safety. More detail of these initiatives can be provided upon request by the ASCF.

1. Road & Drive Way Safety
National Kidsafe Driveway Safety Campaign and COPAL initiatives
2. Online Safety
Cyber Safety Workshops
3. Street Safety
Safety House NT Neighbourhood Watch promotion and membership awareness
4. Home Safety
Child Safe Play Day
Kidsafe NT Messages
5. Crime Prevention
Crime Prevention Thorough Environmental Design CPTED Workshop
Community Park Safety Audits
6. Theft Reduction
Operation Bounce Back Project
7. Water Safety
Water-park Opening Safety Stall

Criteria 4– Injury data

Over the past 12 months, have you analysed any injury/crime data? **Yes/ No**



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If yes, where was this data sourced from and outline how this has changed your ISC priorities?

City of Palmerston in collaboration with NT Police obtained crime related statistics within Palmerston's region in the month of September 2012. As a result Safe Communities formed an alliance with Safety House NT an initiative of Neighbourhood Watch NT to boost Safety House numbers in Palmerston (both residential and commercial). Attached is a media release pertaining to details of the effectiveness of the targeted program.

***Also, note the Department of Health, Office of Children and Families Performance Report which states the progress of obtaining data from the Northern Territory Trauma Unit.

Criteria 5– Evaluation

Please list up to three examples of evaluations of local community safety programs that have been undertaken. Provide a brief summary of the outcomes and how evaluation findings have been incorporated into your ongoing ISC planning. Include copies of any relevant reports. Please indicate if no evaluations have been undertaken during the past 12 months.

1. Volatile Substance Abuse Awareness Workshop (VSA)
2. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Workshop (CPTED)
3. Cyber Safety Presentation

The evaluations provided insight into what worked and what should be improved to enhance such programs. The safe communities' facilitated workshops were well received by the community. For instance the VSA workshop received 36 participants with positive feedback noted. The CPTED workshop proved a success in establishing recommendations to improvements for community parks and public places. Last but not least was the successful Cyber Safety workshop which opened the way for more productive sessions planned to be held throughout the year 2013.

The programs and initiatives have shown what the community needs and effectively prove that early intervention and preventative education and awareness of safety issues are of importance to Palmerston. In line with this, one of the key strategic goals for 2013 beyond is the facilitation of collaborative (partnered) community educational programs such as the 'Safe Start' workshops and planned Cyber Safety workshops to commence in April/ May 2013.

Criteria 6– Networks



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Over the past 12 months, have members of your ISC participated in:

- a) International Meetings
- b) National Meetings
- c) Local Meetings

If yes, please provide a brief outline of what networks your ISC have participated in. Remember to list any contributions your ISC has made to the promotion of safe communities beyond your local community.

International:

City of Palmerston's Mayor and Chief Executive Officer attended the New Zealand World Health Organisation Conference on 1st October 2012 to 4th October 2012. This conference included a comprehensive programme of events/ training sessions and provided an overall view of the 'safe communities' model. Such networking opportunities at an international level support the Palmerston Safe Communities submission for re-designation during 2013.

National:

Pan-Pacific Australasian Safe Communities webinar Launch

City of Palmerston's Mayor, Safe Communities Coordinator and Director for Community and Corporate Services participated in the above mentioned webinar. This was the launch of numerous webinars which provide international networking opportunities. In attendance were representatives from approximately 14 designated safe communities within Australia and Wellington New Zealand. The webinar entailed an overview of selected communities and how they were achieving greater awareness on safety promotion and injury prevention among communities and families.

Local:

The Palmerston Safe Communities Coordinator participated in the following local community meetings and networking groups:

- Darwin and Palmerston Interagency Taskforce Coordination Group
- Palmerston Police Community Consultation Network
- Palmerston and Rural Youth Services Network
- Top End Suicide prevention Network

Final comments:

Over the past 12 months, what have been some of the biggest challenges to your ISC and what steps have you taken to address these?

Duplication:

Many beneficial programs and initiatives have been identified by partner organisations. However, the feedback provided at Palmerston Safe Kids Network meetings are the fact that we are all working to achieve a definitive goal (or) purpose



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but with many overlapping events and programs. In light of this the Safe Communities Coordinator initiated the facilitation of a specific working group to address program and events namely for October's Community Safe month which includes 'Children's Week' and National Kidsafe Day'. In the early stages of this group will be member organisations such as NAPCAN, Kidsafe NT, Australian Red Cross and Palmerston Safe Communities with the intention to include children's service providers.

Over the past 12 months, what have been some of the biggest opportunities for your ISC and what steps have you taken to sustain them?

Sustaining active membership of the Palmerston Safe Communities Committee has proved to be a challenge. Such challenges are due to a number of factors including staff movements and/ or changes to organisational structure (especially within Government organisations).

We have effectively combated this by taking a collaborative approach to working with partner organisations promoting community safety of a high standard. Joint initiatives have been facilitated through organisations such as Safety House NT, Amity, The Smith Family and Kidsafe NT.

Re-establishing or rather re-invigorating such partnerships has been crucial to the on-going success of gaining community ownership to the Palmerston Safe Communities Program. In addition the opportunity to attend the NZ International World Health Conference presented great networking opportunities and provided an education of what other communities are achieving in promoting safety.

Finally, are there any other comments you would like to make about either your ISC or the wider ISC network (e.g. Include any comments about how you see the ISC Network better serving the members of the network).

No further comments.

Thank you for your time and effort to improve community safety. Email in word format by **28 February 2013** to info@safecommunities.net.au

Don't forget to attach any relevant supporting documents.

**Please note that all supporting documentation will be supplied in hardcopy format and shall be available to members upon request.*