

Board Report 7th Annual General Meeting

30/31 August 2021

This is the 7th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the PPSCN. The first PPSCN Board was elected at the 1st Annual General Meeting held in April 2015. This report covers the period from August 2020-July 2021. The PPSCN commenced pursuing official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2015 and has established work on specific projects to advance mutual goals to develop sustainable, equitable, and transferable violence and injury prevention models at the community level. PPSCN has not been in contact and reported to WHO due to their ongoing pandemic focus.

Firstly, we would like to acknowledge the impacts and response to the global Covid-19 pandemic. An enormous and disproportionate health burden was experienced with severe movement restrictions and an unprecedented impact on daily life. Further details on the Covid-19 pandemic at www.who.int

The pandemic has continued to be an ongoing challenge this past year, both at the individual and community levels, affecting the countries in the PPSCN to varying degrees. Following the initial response, the ongoing challenge of living in a pandemic impacted community in a multitude of ways, including unemployment, financial concerns, health risks, mental health, isolation, and uncertainty. Adding too this was a variety of local government, regional and state, national lockdowns that have continued to effect individuals, businesses, and communities. National and state border closures have made travel extremely difficult. The pandemic continues and will be with us for some time in the future, it remains to see what the effects of Covid-19 will have on ongoing funding, capacity, and resources at the national, state, regional and local level.

The PPSCN is a membership based non-government organization working in community wellbeing, injury/violence prevention and safety promotion. Collectively there are more than 60 accredited Safe Communities (over 9 million population), with an additional seven communities in the pipeline at different stages of community and/or application development for accreditation as Safe Communities in New Zealand, Australia, or the United States of America.

Throughout the year one new community have received Safe Community Accreditation and further two are in the process. Two Safe Communities were successfully reaccredited and a further four are in the process of reaccreditation.

PPSCN members are committed to continuous improvement through the review of their practice and processes to adopt a flexible approach to deliver high quality services to increase local action in community safety. There are regional differences within the PPSCN network, to allow countries to apply appropriate social and cultural understanding to the concept. In practice this means that the language and application of the Safe Community model takes on a different framework and has different levels of political support and resourcing whilst still demonstrating alignment to the core criteria. All supporting organizations regularly reported and held quarterly board meetings, with funding grants successful in all two countries.

All Accredited Communities capabilities and capacity are strengthening to mobilize action, through mentoring, provision of tools and ongoing monitoring. The type and level of support varies depending on the country, but all are aimed at increasing the adoption of safety behaviours and strengthening community action. Support given includes:

- Relationship management: national and interagency engagement, local and regional collaboration, maintaining the network of networks

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- Development and distribution of information, research and resources, injury data, analysis and planning tools, Examples include *Pathways to Community Wellbeing Reducing Alcohol-Related Harm: A Framework for Action*; and *Accreditation process documentation(updated)*
- Personal and organisational development: webinars, coaching and mentoring, for the 2020/2021 year the majority of these were undertaken virtual.
- Communications: web-based, social media, zoom/skype, phone/email, site visits, newsletters
- Annual reporting has been undertaken at an in-country level.
- PPSCN Webinar series: *Safer City for Women: 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence*; *Development and uses of a Social Community Profile*. There are over 30 archived webinars available online. <http://ppscn.org>

Furthermore:

- New Zealand hosted a face-to-face regional workshop and a two-day national hui (conference).
- New Zealand is currently undergoing transition phase to a community-led network.
- Australia continues to provide support to the Japanese Institute for Safe Communities regarding online pre-onsite evaluations and safe schools accreditations.
- Australia continues to run the Passport to Safety program – an online learning and test program for young workers about to enter the world of work.
- Safe Communities America website has been updated and has conducted a training for reviewers over zoom.

PPSCN Chairs, would like to thank all Board Members for their time and energy in supporting the objectives of the PPSCN. Further information about the purpose, history and structure can be found online at www.ppscns.org.

Finally, on behalf of the PPSCN Board, we acknowledge the work that you as members of over 60 communities are doing locally to promote community safety. You are all working extremely hard to make a difference in your community. Your support continues to enable the PPSCN to build its capacity to work towards its objectives and vision.



Improving Community Safety Across the Pacific

Background
The Safe Community model is an internationally recognised, evidence-based best practice model for addressing community safety issues at the local level.

Our Purpose
From our collective experience we will steer the growth of the Safe Communities movement now and in the future that will have all sectors working together in a coordinated and collaborative way, forming partnerships to promote safety.

OUR VISION
That all people in their communities can live, work and learn to play safely, free from preventable injury and violence.

OUR MISSION
Across the Pacific build and maintain a network of Safe Communities that are committed to and actively engaged in creating safer environments and safer behaviours.

OUR GOALS

- Reduce injury and violence
- Promote injury prevention, community development, public health
- Build community commitment to the Safe Communities movement

OUR PEOPLE

- Passionate about community safety and injury prevention
- Authentic, professional and knowledgeable about community safety
- Warm, welcoming and ready to help
- Change makers

OUR PHILOSOPHY
Safe Communities acknowledge that no single agency or organisation can possibly claim to be solely responsible for achieving a "A Safe Community".

OUR PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS

- Local community stakeholders
- Local councils
- Like minded safe community champions

OUR PRIORITIES 2020 - 2021

Support and enable safe communities to be become and remain effective through collaborative governance, priority setting, effective strategies and continuous improvement.

- International connections
- Community targets to reduce injury and violence
- Link our work to the Sustainable Development Goals
- WHO collaboration