

## **Appendix 2: Conference Report (Website Version)**

### **Evidence, Action, Innovation Community Safety and Injury Prevention Conference: What Works?**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008

The Injury Control Council of Western Australia Inc. (ICCWA), with the support of the Department of Health WA, held a community safety and injury prevention conference in Bunbury on 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008. The conference was the first to be held in a regional centre as part of a three year program of professional development and capacity building in community safety and injury prevention in WA. Approximately 120 delegates from State and Local Government, non-government organizations, Police and education participated in the two day event, which aimed to bring together this diverse range of professionals and community members to show case and discuss community safety and injury prevention issues. Key themes of the conference were 'evidence, action and innovation' and what works in community safety and injury prevention. The conference provided opportunities for developing skills, networking and collaboration to build partnerships.

#### **Keynote Presenters**

Keynote presenter Henk Harberts joined the conference from Victoria to share his experiences with the World Health Organization Safe Communities initiative. Currently Henk is a Community Development Officer at Latrobe City Council and Chair of the Australian Safe Communities Foundation. The presentation, entitled "Evidence, Action and Innovation, A Global Challenge and a Community Solution", discussed action that can be taken at a local level to address community safety and the process of partnerships and collaboration between organizations that can facilitate successful initiatives.

Gail McGowan, Injury and Trauma Health Network Advisory Group Member, and Director Policy and Education at WorkSafe discussed the role and work program of the Injury and Trauma Network during a Keynote presentation entitled, 'Injury and Trauma Network: Making the WA Community Safer'. This presentation also provided insight into work related injuries in WA and the role of WorkSafe.

#### **Plenary Presentations**

Janelle Leiper from WACHS South West presented injury data from the recently released South West Health and Community Profile by the WACHS – SW Population Health Unit. Dr. Gillian Sellar show cased the Denmark Safe Community through a film which highlighted that small towns rely heavily on volunteers and often a key person to 'champion' many community initiatives, such as Safe Communities, is needed.

#### **Concurrent Sessions**

The event show cased a wide range of diverse programs projects and initiatives with a very full program including over 35 presenters, many of whom traveled from other regions to be a part of the conference. Concurrent sessions were streamed into: Building Capacity in Our Community, Research and Injury Surveillance, Road Safety, Senior's Safety, Alcohol Related Injury and Child Safety. Presentations covered injury

issues including falls prevention in older people, burns, scalds and accidental poisoning in children, safety during water activities to prevent drowning, suicide prevention, mental health, farm safety and a number of community safety issues.

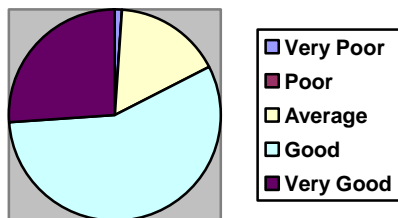
### Workshops

On the second day of the conference, workshops on various topics of injury prevention and community safety were held. These participatory workshops covered topics of mental health, project evaluation, advocacy/media work, diverse sexuality and gender, education resources and Aboriginal cultural awareness. Ratings for each workshop are given based on participant responses.

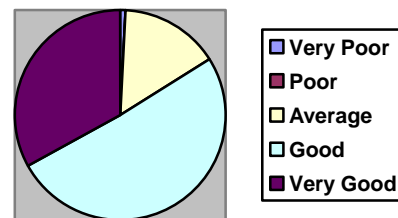
### Evaluation

#### Sessions Rating

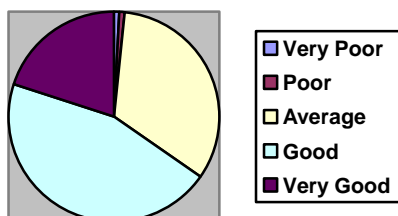
Relevance of Sessions



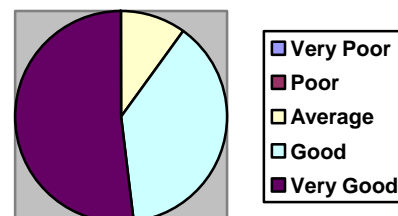
Informative/Interesting



Practical Application



Workshops Rating



#### Delegate Comments

"Very relevant, made some great contacts."

"Gained effective skills & knowledge that can be applied in my role as and advocate and policy developer."

"They provided some thought provoking ideas. Good exposure to a cross section of safe community areas."

"I really enjoyed the discussion generated in these workshops that offered a range of different perspectives on various issues."

"Fantastic to see a positive community at work."

Presentations from the conference are available from [www.iccwa.org.au](http://www.iccwa.org.au)