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Safe Community Network News

By Japanese Society of Safety Promotion

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3. Kmaeoka Shino-Cho "Ai Ai Network"

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Japanese Society of Safety Promotion
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1 Security Show 2009 in Japan

SECURITY SHOW 2009 in Japan was held on 3rd - 6th May at Tokyo Big Site. This is the biggest domestic show to present new security instruments and systems at forefront for protecting public facilities, offices and houses from various crimes and disaster.

About two hundred fifty company set up their booth and show their original new product at the venue. Around ten Safe & security seminars and workshop were held at the same time, through these seminars, lots of information about safe and security were sent to public.

As one of these seminars, a seminar titled "developing Safe Community for accidents and injury prevention at community" was held on 3rd May, our society could have an opportunity to show Safe Community. Prof. Takashi Eto (Chair of Japanese Society of Safety Promotion) and Mr. Isamu Yamauchi (Kameoka City) presented keynote speech at this seminar. Prof. Eto talked about what Safe Community and Safe Community movement in the world, and then Mr. Yamauchi showed the outline of designation as Safe Community and activities in Kameoka

They attracted a great deal of attention to Safe Community, and could get a one hundred fifty audience's sympathy.



2. Atsugi got unofficial site-visit to get advice about developing safe community

Atsugi City invited Prof. Joon Pil Cho (Chair, Certifying Center for Safe Community in Asian Region, Center for Injury Prevention and Community Safety Promotion Ajou University School of Medicine, Suwon, Korea), Prof. Lu Pai (Director, Taiwanese Community safety Promotion Center. Vice Chair, Asia Region Safe Community Network. Asso Prof. Institute of Injury Prevention and Control, Taipei medical University), Prof. Shumei Wan (School of Public Health, Fudan University, Shanghai, China) to get advice about activities at their community on 12th - 15th February.

On 12th, Outline of Atsugi city and activities was explained by staff of city government after meeting Mayor.

Various problems about injury and a background that Atsugi City has started the activity for Safe Community were shown them.

As Atsugi City is located in a center of Kanagawa Prefecture, and



important road such as Tomei Highway and National Route 129, 246, 271, 412, through within city, a rate of traffic accident is high level in Japan. The crime rate also is high level which is 13th from top of the worst of all cities in Japan. In such situation, when city government surveyed about public security, the result of it make clear that a lot of people feel their area not safety. To make this situation better, Mayor of Atsugi City decided to start activity for

Safe Community. A lot of program to improve these problem has been conducting since 2008.

On site-visit, three advisers looked on "neighbor watch" that volunteers watch children between school and their home, safe cycle course for children, fire station and general disaster prevention

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center, the base place of patrol for crime prevention

After site-visit, meeting was held, Mayor, the head of police station, the head of self government association participated in it and discussed about their activities and issues in Atsugi. And they could get good advices from three advisers. At the end of site-visit, Prof. Cho gave a message “Atsugi City is a community we hope for designation as safe community, because a lot of good program has been conducted. To make more active, it is necessary to give priority to each problem, and conduct sustainable activities.



3. Kamkeoa Shino-Cho “Ai Ai Network”

New program called “Ai Ai network” has been started at Shino-Cho in Kameka. It is a neighborhood volunteer network to support elderly daily life in community. “Ai” means Love and it is also same pronunciation with “eye” in Japanese. So its name means network built by neighborhood love and watch. Since Sino-cho is a pilot area in Kameoka which is first safe community in Japan, they are getting more and more active after designation. As this network was built at the suggestion of residents, residents have been discussing enough for a year to make a sustainable program.

In the result of discussing, Shino-Cho District Social Welfare Association based on Law was established at the same time “Ai Ai Network” built. This association was established to make it sure to be a sustainable program for safety promotion. At first, this association’s activity is currying out activities for elderly safety with some existing organization such as a neighborhood association, but in near future it will expand activities into child safety.

Regarding program for the elderly safety, there are three program, friendship program, supporting program, special organization supporting program. Friendship program is to build a relationship which meet together through a neighborhood association, a elderly club, all kind of group activity.

Leader of group activity and staff of association pay tension to each elderly person when meet together. When someone seems to be troubled with something, leader or staff casually give advice them. Moreover when someone continue to be absent from activities for a while, they need to make sure their safety.

Through such program, the network tries to keep safety of the elderly and build a safety net by keeping the good relationship among residents in community. Outline of this program is as right figure. Neighborhood Self Government Association(NSGA) who has an important role to promote Safe Community has become District council of social welfare. It will promote elderly health and mental care more and more. And it will make it possible what Government and NSGA

association could not do. We are expecting Kameoka Safe Community will be more active.

