

JssP

Safe Community Network News

By Japanese Society of Safety Promotion

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1. Towada City was designated as Safe Community.
2. The 3rd annual conference of JSSP
3. Sakae Ward has started program for Safe Community.
4. Introduction; Japanese Program for Safety Promotion

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Japanese Society of Safety Promotion
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1. Towada City was designated as Safe Community

Towada City was designated as a Safe Community, 159th Member in the international Safe Community Network, 2nd in Japan, on 28th August 2009. Towada Safe Community started on the introduction of Safe Community to Mayor by Dr Yoshihide Sorimachi(Director, Kamitosan Public Health Center, Towada, Japan. Vice President of JssP) on August 2005. On December 2005, a seminar about Safe Community was held at Towada City Government, in order that the staffs of Towada City Government study about Safe Community. On January 2007, to spread the concept of Safe Community into all over city, Towada citizen's forum "Developing Safe Community for child injury prevention" was held. Taking this opportunity, citizen and volunteers and experts who agree with the concept of Safe Community established a volunteer organization.

After that, this organization started to build a grass-roots movement. Activities for safety promotion were spreading in to all over city gradually. And their passion moved mayor's mind. In the result of that, Mayor decided to start the project to become the member of international Safe Community Network, and declared it into public on April 2007.

Just as Mayor declared, Towada Safe Community Promoting Committee was established, and various activities were spreading rapidly into city. On January 2009, Towada City submitted application for becoming the member of international network to the Asian Certifying Center for Safe Community in Korea.

Towada is carrying out various activities befitting Safe Community, such as a seminar for elderly fall prevention, neighborhood watch for protect children from accidents, an activity for natural disaster prevention, a volunteer activity for suicide prevention, so on. Congratulation Towada!



2. The 3rd annual conference of Japanese Society of Safety Promotion (JSSP) in Towada

The 3rd annual conference of JSSP was held in Towada City on 28th – 29th August 2009, of which chairperson was Dr. Yoshihide Sorimachi(Director of Kamitosan Public Health Center, in Towada, vice president of JSSP). Its main theme was "For everybody's hope for daily safety, - Accident, Violence, and Suicide Prevention in collaboration with Citizens". About three hundreds people participated in the conference.

At oral presentation, 26 subjects such as a result of activity, a study about safety promotion, were presented by persons working in various fields.

At the main symposium its theme was " Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Work with Inter - Sectoral Collaboration", Prof Yutaka Motohashi (Dean of Faculty of Medicine, Akita University), Associate Prof Chiaki Kawanishi (Department of Psychiatry, Yokohama City



Main Symposium

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University of Medicine), Mr. Hisayoshi Kato, Counsellor, Division of Suicide Countermeasures, Cabinet Office of the National Government), Mr. Yasuyuki Shimizu (President of NPO” Lifelink”), and Ms. Atsuko Shindo (district nurse, Tohoku Town, Aomori Prefecture) presented various suicide countermeasures in each field, after that they discussed about comprehensive suicide prevention involving audience.

The word of presenter who are working for suicide prevention at the forefront were very important and got to core of the matter, so I think, every audience was felt keenly that we have to do something we can do for suicide prevention one by one

At the International Workshop on Community Safety Promotion in Asian Context, Prof Lu Pai (Director, Taiwanese Community Safety Promotion Center) introduced “Gradually Expanded Safe Community Movement - Taiwanese Experience” at first. Next, Dr. In - guk Kim (Director, Community Health Center, Songpa District, Seoul, Korea) presented “Songpa Project - for Child Safety”. After that, Mr. Toru Hitomi (Director, Department of Planning and Coordination, Kameoka City), Mr. Takao Kuramochi (Deputy Director, Collaborative Safety Department, Atsugi City), and Ms. Hisako Nagase, Deputy Director, Health Promotion Division, Towada City) introduced each project in their community

There was some difference of the problem and the countermeasure in each community. Their presentation was very interesting and useful for community which is working for safe community.

3. Sakae Ward, Yokohama City started activity for Safe Community.

Sakae Ward, Yokohama City has started program to become a member of international Safe Community Network.

Developing Safe and Secure Sakae Ward was taken up as the most important project in the policy of Sakae Ward, 2009. And promoting Safe Community was taken up as a concrete measure to do that. Promoting Safe Community was also placed in the general plan of Sakae Ward.

Moreover, the PR brochure of Sakae Ward Government in September did a special feature on Safe Community, the head of ward declared to aim for Safe Community into public.

Sakae Ward is ward that the crime rate is the least, but an accidental death rate is the 10th from high among 18 wards, and the suicide rate is the 5th. Sakae Ward will be working for Safe Community making the most use of power of community.

Community which is conducting activity for Safe Community got to four communities, Kameoka, Towada, Atsugi, Sakae. Safe Community is getting more active steadily in Japan. And we hope the network of Safe Community in Japan will be getting bigger in near future.



Introduction: Japanese Program for Safety Promotion

First aid training for community members (Kameoka City)

With support from the fire department, Kameoka City provides training courses of first aids which include operation of AEDs.

Attendants learn about first treatment such as CPR and operation of AED at a three hour class. After the lecture, attendants get certificates as citizen staff for first aid. Every year, about 1,000 people are certified as citizen staffs for first aid.



Beside this program, there is another training course in which residents can also learn about CPR and operation of AEDs by lecture.