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Safe Community Network News

By Japanese Society of Safety Promotion

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<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Minowa Town have started community safety program.2. Atsugi; Rally for designation for Safe Community3. Atsugi discussed about a draft of application4. Towada Safe Community Introduction -4-	Safe Community Network News Vol.023. Jan 1 st . 2010 Japanese Society of Safety Promotion Responsible Editor: Naoya Hatta E-mail:safetyprom@yahoo.co.jp

1. Minowa Town, Nagano Prefecture, has started community safety program

Minowa Town Nagano Prefecture has declared to start community safety program, and was registered on WHO Community Center on Community Safety Promotion as a community under preparation for becoming a member of International Safe Community Network. Overview of Minowa and letter from Mayor are upped on website of WHOCCCSP. Please visit and check Minowa's information. Now I would like to introduce you overview of Minowa briefly.

Minowa Town established in 1955 by merging three villages, has been developing as a garden city located at the northern part of Ina Valley of Nagano prefecture and surrounded by the North Alps and South Alps. Population is 26,000.

Recently, Minowa Town has dramatically changed to a high technology town because of many advanced and developing companies moving in from big cities including the metropolitan areas. It has been promoting future type environment with dream and Romanticism based on the philosophy of establishing the town that agriculture, commerce and industry harmonize and where citizens take leading roles. Furthermore, citizens are sincerely working to achieve "Establishing Safe and Secure Town".

It has also been promoting projects on the field of welfare and environment, education. Especially various volunteer activities by citizen, such as school watch, safe traffic association, volunteer fire brigade, is very active, it has been protecting their safe and secure life.

In such situation, Mayor of Minowa paid attention to Safe Community Movement which tries to prevent the injury and death on every environment including suicide. And then he has decided to start community safety program, and declared it at the municipal assembly on December 2009.

By expanding safe community movement, Minowa Town Government in collaboration with citizen is going to make their town become Safe and Secure Utopia.



2. Atsugi: Rally for designation as Safe Community

Rally for designation as Safe Community was held at Atsugi Culture Center on 19 November 2009, in order let citizen know activities for Safe Community Designation, about 450 people participated in the rally.

At first of the rally, Tsuneyoshi Kobayashi, Mayor of Atsugi had a speech "I would like to expand safe community movement more, by strengthening a bond on neighborhood and developing community trusted by citizen.



At the first stage, Mr Ryoji Hirano (Chief of Safe Community Promoting Division, Atsugi City) reported activities they have been conducting, and a problem to be solved. At next stage, Symposium titled "Safe Community Movement for developing Safe & Secure & Energy City" was held, Mr. Takao Taguchi (President of Shimizu Health and Safe Children Network) and Mr. Kenji Shimura (Muro Self Government Association Networkz), Ms. Izumi Suzuki (Kamisanda Self Government Assosiation), Mr. Hideya Tsutsui (Mirai Bunka Kawamoto Self Government

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Association), Mr. Hiroyoshi Ishi (Atsugi Safe Traffic Association), Ms. Kiyoko Umehara (Atsugi City) had each presentation about their activities or the effect of their program.

As Asugi is aiming for Safe Community designation on autumn 2010, their movement is expanding rapidly in all over city. I hope that citizen will be in more concerts, and Safe Community Movement will be more active.

3. Atsugi discussed about application for safe community with Safe Community satisfy support center before submitting it.

Atsugi visited Certifying Center for Safe Community Ajou University School of Medicine, Suwon, Korea and discussed about a draft of their application with Prof. Joon Pil Cho (Chair Certifying Center for Safe Community Ajou University School of Medicine, Suwon, Korea) on 21 – 25 November 2009.

Atsugi has invited Safe Community Coordinators of Certifying Center to Atsugi, and has gotten good advice to improve their program on six indicators. Atsugi showed and explained Prof. Joon Pil Cho a draft of their application to become a member of International Safe Community Network as well as they reported improved things corresponding advices.

It is not always necessary to discuss about a draft of application with Certifying Center, but it is an important thing to take a step toward Safe Community. It makes problem clear on six indicators, and let us know a progress toward a designation. I think it is very helpful for community under preparation for safe community to do it during international conference, study trip so on.



After discussion, they visited Sonpa and studied Safe School, beside participated in the 6th international conference on injury prevention. This activity is one of activities for 6th indicator.

4. Towada Safe Community Introduction -3-

It's an introduction of program for child safety and traffic safety. Main program is put on the table. The priority of Towada Community Safety promotion in the field of child safety and traffic safety are high morbidity of pedestrian injury among elderly and high morbidity of bicycle injury among school children. Bicycle helmet wearing campaign and reflector-using campaign are the program for these problems.



The programs on the table have been conducted at most municipalities in Japan. So I have been talking, when Japanese Community start safe community movement, it is not necessary to start new programs. Just changing the way to do on Safe Community policy is enough.

In the case of Safety checkup for playground equipment, residents checkup it themselves, not government or company of playground equipment, after they learned about a risk of those. If checkup is carried out on community level, all playground equipment will be under their watching every time. In the result of that, Safety in parks will be improved drastically. Safety Promotion on community level is Safe Community!

Child safety	Traffic safety
Safety checkup for playground equipment	Traffic supervision instructor program
Periodic supervision by community guardians	Free provision of reflector, safety hat and satchel cover for children.
Creating safety maps	Traffic safety class program
Juvenile misconduct prevention program	Bicycle helmet campaign for children and elderly
Slogan contest on safe community	Clearing snow on pavement programs etc
Bicycle helmet-wearing campaign etc	