

# Questionnaire

For Information on the Safe Community Network web page <http://www.phs.ki.se/csp/>

## Presentation of the Safe Community Programmes

Photo: The Community

**Name of the Community:** Broadlands Park & Nomzamo Safe Communities Network

District: Strand –Helderberg; City: Cape Town; Country: South Africa

Number of inhabitants:

Broadlands Park: approx 10 000 – 15 000

Nomzamo: approx: 15 000 – 20 000

Programme started year: 1998

”WHO- designation” year:

Info address on www for the Programme: No:.....Yes, where?

Yes: UNISA – ISHS website: <http://www.unisa.ac.za/dept/ishs/index.html>

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Info address on www for the institution (or community as a whole): No: √.... Yes, where?

**The programme covers the following safety promotion activities that are tailored to the needs of the respective communities:**

### For the age group

Photo: Typical safety feature

Children 0-14 years:

A. Lifeskills Development: Education & Capacitation

1. First Aid (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
2. Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
3. Home Visitation (Pilot) Program (Nomzamo)
4. Conflict Management and Communication (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
5. HIV and AIDS (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
6. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
7. Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
8. Sport against Crime and Violence (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
9. Prevention of Drug Abuse (Broadlands Park)
10. Safe Schools Program (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)

## Youth 15-24 years: Education & Capacitation

1. Safe Schools (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
2. Prevention of Alcohol & Drug Abuse (Broadlands Park)
3. Sports Against Crime (Broadland Park & Nomzamo)
4. Prevention of Teenage Preganacy (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
5. Youth Mentorship Program ( Broadlands Park)
6. First Aid – level 1 & 2 ( Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
7. Conflict Management (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
8. Prevention of Domestic Violence ( Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
9. Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
10. Non – Violent Communication Methods ( Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
11. Women’s Leadership and Development (Broadlasnds Park & Nomzamo)
12. Economic Empowerment and Development (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
13. Advocacy and Lobbying (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
14. Peace Dialogue (Nomzamo)
15. Disaster Management (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
16. Community Policing, Community Safety, Neighbourhood Forums (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
17. Prevention of HIV/AIDS (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
18. Lay Counselling (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)

## Adults 25-64 years: Education & Capacitation

1. First Aid level 1 & 2 (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
2. Prevention of Domestic Violence (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
3. Home Visitation (Nomzamo)
4. Home – Based Care (Nomzamo & Broadlands Park)
5. Women’s Leadership and Development (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
6. Advocacy and Lobbying (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
7. Economic Empowerment and Development (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
8. Prevention of HIV/AIDS – (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
9. Lay Counselling Services (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
10. Conflict Management (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
11. Prevention of Alcohol & Drug Abuse (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
12. Non Violent Communication methods (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
13. Community Policing. Community Safety & Neighbourhood Watch Forum (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
14. Disaster Management (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
15. Health Promotion e.g. Diabetes Week, Cancer Prevention etc (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)

## Elderly 65+ years:

1. Health Promotion activities, e.g. Diabetes Day / Alzheimer’s Day / Eye Care/ Cancer Day etc.

**At the following environments:**

Home: Home Visitation / Home – Based Care and Counselling

Traffic: Pedestrian and Road Safety (Road Humps / Signage / Pedestrian

Visibility (reflectorisation) / Installation of robot at busy intersection/ traffic calming

Occupational: N/A

School: Safe Schools Program and Surveillance (Research)

Sports: Sports Against Crime (Local Government & Community Partnership)

Leisure: Fenced Play Areas

Other: What?

**Violence prevention** (intentional injuries): This important prevention challenge is been addressed by adopting the public health approach:

1. Epidemiology: local community members were involved with the UNISA Institute in conducting research to obtain baseline data on risk and resiliency to injury and violence
2. Education: local members of the community are capacitated via workshops to prevent injury and violence
3. Engineering: Street lighting is well maintained and working especially in “hot spots” and areas of recreation which do not comply with community and legal requirements are forewarned of cessation of business and closure.
4. Enforcement: local community enforcement agencies partner with police services in preventing violence and imprisoning violent offenders.
5. Evaluation & Sustainability: The UNISA Institute capacitates and encourages community members in evaluating there programs.

**Suicide prevention** (self-inflicted injuries): Not a priority violence prevention challenge in these communities, but needs to be reviewed

**Programs aiming at ”High risk-groups”:** The following two overarching programs are aimed at addressing the injury and violence prevention challenges for “at high – risk “groups are:

1. Women’s Led Safety Promotion and Capacitation Program (refer Annual Report)
2. Home Visitation Program (refer Annual Report)

**Surveillance of injuries:** Apart from the baseline data collected by the UNISA Institute and local members of the communities in 1998, there is injury and violence data that is systematically but informally collected by local members of the Broadlands Park community. Consultation and discussions around formalising the initiation and management of this surveillance system has taken place, and implementation will begin in 2005.

Where? Nomzamo and Broadlands Park – Strand, Cape Town, South Africa???

Numbers per year: Nomzamo (Numbers???) / Broadlands Park??

Population base: Community - based

Started year: 1998

**Publications:** (Scientific): the following publications emanate from research conducted in these communities.

#### **Books (published)**

1. Suffla, S., Van Niekerk, A. (Eds.) & N. Duncan (Consulting Ed.) (2004). *Crime, violence and injury prevention in South Africa: developments and challenges*. Tygerberg: MRC-UNISA Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme.

#### **Book Chapters (published)**

1. Bowman, B. & Stevens, G. (2004). Injury costing in South Africa: The state of the sector. In S. Suffla & A. van Niekerk (Eds.) & N. Duncan (Consulting Ed.), *Crime, violence and injury prevention in South Africa: developments and challenges* (pp. 170–183). Tygerberg: MRC-UNISA Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme.
2. Carolissen, G. & Matzopoulos, R. (2004). Childhood injury: Unintentional paraffin poisoning. In S. Suffla, A. van Niekerk (Eds.) & N. Duncan (Consulting Ed.), *Crime, violence and injury prevention in South Africa: developments and challenges* (pp. 9–21). Tygerberg: MRC-UNISA Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme.
3. Sukhai, A., Noah, M. & Prinsloo, M. (2004). Road traffic injury in South Africa: An epidemiological overview for 2001. In S. Suffla, A. van Niekerk (Eds.) & N. Duncan (Consulting Ed.), *Crime, violence and injury prevention in South Africa: developments and challenges* (pp. 114–127). Tygerberg: MRC-UNISA Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme.
4. Van Niekerk, A., Du Toit, N., Nowell, M. J., Moore, S. & Van As, A. B. (2004). Childhood burn injury: Epidemiological, management and emerging injury prevention studies. In S. Suffla, A. Van Niekerk (Eds.) & N. Duncan (Consulting Ed.), *Crime, violence and injury prevention in South Africa: developments and challenges* (pp. 145–157). Tygerberg: MRC-UNISA Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme.

#### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (published)**

1. Ahmed, R., Seedat, M., Van Niekerk, A. & Bulbulia, S. (2004). Towards discerning community resiliency: An exploratory investigation. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 34(3), 386-408.
- Swart, L., Seedat, M. & Sader, F. (2004). Community volunteerism in safety promotion and implications for sustained participation. *African Safety Promotion: A Journal of Injury and Violence Prevention*, 2(1), 1-15.
2. Swart, T. M. & Stevens, G. (2004). Critical lessons from a schools-based injury surveillance initiative. *African Safety Promotion: A Journal of Injury and Violence Prevention*, 2(1), 57-65.
3. Van Niekerk, A. (2004). The epidemiology of childhood burn injuries in South Africa: A review of the evidence. *African Safety Promotion: A Journal of Injury and Violence Prevention*, 2(1), 16-26.
4. Van Niekerk, A., Rode, H., & Laflamme, L. (2004). Incidence and patterns of childhood burn injuries in the Western Cape, South Africa. *Burns*, 30(4), 341-347.

### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (submitted for review)**

1. Atkins, S., Van Niekerk, A., Lekoba, R. & Seedat, M. (submitted for review). Perceptions of childhood unintentional injury risk factors in two low-income communities in South Africa. *Journal of Child Health Care*.
2. Donson, H. & Wyngaard, G. (submitted for review). School injury surveillance in South Africa: Towards a platform for safety promotion in schools. *African Safety Promotion: A Journal of Injury and Violence Prevention*.
3. Odendaal, W., Atkins, S., Van Niekerk, A. & Seedat, M. (submitted for review). Home visitation: A South African case study. *African Safety Promotion: A Journal of Injury and Violence Prevention*.
4. Van Niekerk, A., Reimers, A. & Laflamme, L. (submitted for review). Area characteristics and determinants of childhood burn injury in Cape Town. *Public Health*.
5. Stevens, G. & Swart, T. (2004). *Challenges, perspectives and prospects for schools-based violence prevention in South Africa*. Johannesburg: MRC-UNISA Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme.

### **Technical Reports (in review)**

1. Atkins, S., Van Niekerk, A., Bulbulia, S. & Seedat, M. (submitted for review). *Broadlands Park safety promotion fact book*. MRC-UNISA Crime, Violence and Injury Lead Programme Technical Report Series.

### **Produced information material, pamphlets:**

#### **African Safety Promotion**

As research-driven organisations, both the ISHS and ex-National Trauma Research Programme have for several years developed a range of publications focusing on safety promotion and injury prevention within a public health and development framework. These publications have generally maintained a low-to-medium level of circulation. In an attempt to broaden their value, a more formalised journal that extends to other practitioners and researchers in Africa was developed. The aims of *African Safety Promotion* are to foster the exchange of ideas among safety promotion and injury prevention researchers, practitioners and policy makers in Africa but also further afield in other regions of the world.

Funding was obtained from the NRF to drive this process, and during 2001 the necessary infrastructural and academic basis for the journal was finalised (i.e. internationally recognised editorial staff, internationally recognised peer-review board, technical and conceptual format and scope). The third issue of the journal was published in July 2004 with a fourth pending by the end of 2004. In addition to authorship capacitation of researcher-practitioners in the sector, the journal aims to seek accreditation from the South African National Department of Education in 2005. It will expand its current base of contributors specifically through locating this peer-reviewed journal within the Injury Prevention Initiative for Africa (IPIFA).

#### **Injury and Safety Monitor**

##### ***(Incorporating the Trauma Review and the African Safecom News)***

The Trauma Review of the former National Trauma Research Programme was merged with the Institute's African Safecom News to form the Injury and Safety Monitor in 2002. In addition to short articles highlighting empirical research findings related to injury patterns trends and profiles, it now also includes a focus on prevention programmes, their efficacy and impact. During 2004 two issues of the Injury and Safety Monitor were completed and were sent to close to eight hundred people. The focal areas were injuries and safety issues in rural areas and innovative methodologies to document information on violence and injuries.

## **Community Safety Newsletter**

This is a community – based newsletter containing relevant contextual injury and violence prevention information, and also explains research data that is collected and analysed and then presented in simple English and the vernacular to the community. Local members of the community have submitted writings that have appeared in these newsletters. This newsletter is disseminated twice or thrice annually.

### **Staff**

Photo of leader(s):

Number: Nomzamo (20 members); Broadlands Park (12 members)

Professions: part-time or full-time:

Permanent:

Temporary:

Organization: Nomzamo Safety and Health Promotion Organization and Universal Community Development, formerly called the Broadlands Park Safety and Health Promotion Team from Broadlands Park.

Specific intersectoral leadership group: Broadlands Park Executive Committee; Broadlands Park Neighbourhood Watch; Community Policing Forums, Community Safety Forums; South African National Civic Organization (SANCO); NGO's and NPO's and CBO's; Police Services; Business; Sports Against Crime; Local Government; Disaster Management; Emergency and Fire Rescue Services; Child Protection Unit etc.

General public health/health promotion group: Community Health Workers and Services???

### **International commitments:**

Study visits: N/A

Participation in Safe Community conferences: Where?

Local community representatives have presented papers at the 1<sup>st</sup> African Regional Safe Communities Conference that was held in Harare – Zimbabwe in 2000.

It is envisaged that these communities will also present papers at the upcoming safe Communities Conference in Cape Town – South Africa in June 2005, and the 8<sup>th</sup> World Injury Prevention Conference in Kwa – Zulu Natal in April 2006

Hosting Safe Community Conferences: When? N/A

Hosting "Travelling Seminars": N/A

Other, what?.....

## **APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS A SAFE COMMUNITIES NETWORK – MARCH 2005**

### **1. INTRODUCTION: THE SAFE COMMUNITY INDICATORS**

The target for the safe community network and its joint programme are groups of people with common interests, such as residence in the same place (e.g. a municipality), or membership of the same group (e.g. a voluntary organisation). The two communities in question, Nomzamo and Broadlands Park in the Strand, Helderberg district, have been over the last several years collaborating with the UNISA Centre for Peace Action, a recognized designate of the WHO Affiliate Safe Communities Network in promoting a public health approach to safe communities. Nomzamo and Broadlands Park are socio and geo - demographically, characterized as low income neighbourhoods with people living in informal (shanty) settlements and low cost Government housing (single room), with each neighbourhood type manifesting its own, very distinct pattern of injuries, and risk and resiliency factors.

According to the indicators developed within the Safe Community network the following requirements must be met for an organisation to be a member of the Safe Community Network.

1. An infrastructure based on partnerships and collaborations, governed by a cross – sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community;
2. Long – term, sustainable program covering genders and all ages, environments and situations;
3. Programs that target high - risk groups and environments and programs that promote safety for vulnerable groups;
4. Programs that document the frequency and causes of injuries;
5. Evaluation measures to assess their programs, processes and the effects of change;
6. Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks.

## **2. THE SAFE COMMUNITY INDICATORS RELATED TO THE BROADLANDS PARK and NOMZAMO SAFE COMMUNITIES NETWORK**

- *An infrastructure based on partnerships and collaborations, governed by a cross – sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community*

Cross-sectional involvement in the promotion of safety is maintained through links with the following agencies and organisations:

### **A. State and Local Government**

- ❖ Unicity – Mayor of Cape Town Cape Town & Executive Committee
- ❖ Local Government – Helderberg Municipality / Ward Councillors
- ❖ Strand Police Services
- ❖ Department of Safety & Security – Community Policing Forums (CPF's) & Community Safety Forums (CSF's)
- ❖ Western Cape Education Department (WCED)
- ❖ Local Government – Ambulance & Emergency Rescue Services
- ❖ Local Government – Disaster Management
- ❖ Department of Social Welfare

### **B. Community Groups**

- ❖ Broadlands Park & Nomzamo Street Committees
- ❖ Broadlands Park Neighbourhood Watch
- ❖ Broadlands Park Executive Committee
- ❖ Strand Religious Forum
- ❖ Local Primary and Secondary Schools (Broadlands Park & Nomzamo)
- ❖ South African National Civic Organisations (SANCO)
- ❖ Community Clinics
- ❖ Non – Governmental Organisations (NGO's), Non – Profit Organisations (NPO's) and Community – Based Organisations (CBO's).
- ❖ Local Media - Helderberg Pos / District Mail
- ❖ Helderberg Radio



➤ ***Long – term, sustainable program covering genders and all ages, environments and situations***

The CPA and communities of Broadlands Park and Nomzamo have been collaborating over several years in promoting safety efforts. These communities were financially dependent on the CPA for the promotion and implementation of program activities. However, after developing the necessary capacitation and confidence, these communities have now registered with the Government to be classified as non – profit organisations, and therefore have access to funding and sponsorships from various agencies to continue their safety and health promotion activities that covers all ages and genders and environments in their neighbourhoods. Efforts to have the programme permanently funded by local authorities are ongoing, and over the last three years have achieved some successes. These communities have premises in their neighbourhoods that will serve as a local safety and health and advice resource centre, making it easily accessible to the residents. The UNISA – CPA will continue to provide ongoing technical support to these communities.

➤ ***Programs that target high - risk groups and environments and programs that promote safety for vulnerable group***

The Centre for Peace Action’s collaborative programmatic efforts with these historically marginalized and disenfranchised communities epitomised a programme that aims to enhance safety-related equity and justice. Within this broad framework, attention is particularly focussed upon the sub-groups most vulnerable to injury, namely residents of informal settlements, abused and neglected children, young mothers and youth, the unemployed and victims of violence. The Broadlands Park and Nomzamo Safety Network (BPNSN) will continue its efforts to ensure that programs on safety and health addressing high – risk and vulnerable groups are promoted in their neighbourhoods.

➤ ***Programs that document the frequency and causes of injuries.***

The UNISA - CPA placed emphasis on capacity development through the recruitment and training of local residents as field interviewers and data capturers. At present, the CPA employs members of the Nomzamo safety network to assist in data collection for the home visitation program, while residents the Broadlands Park members are busy involved with completing a skills audit in their neighbourhood. In addition, the Broadlands Park Neighbourhood Safety Team continually collects and document data on injury and violence in their neighbourhood, and the initiation, capacitation and management of their existing data collection methods have been formalised for implementation in 2005. Members from both these communities were instrumental in collecting data on risks and resiliency to injuries in 1998, which was documented and presented at the 1st African Regional Safe Communities Conference in Africa in 1999. A number of local and international publications have been produced to date, and detailed analysis of the information on two “risk and resiliency” projects have already been widely distributed through popular and scientific mediums.

➤ *Evaluation measures to assess their programs, processes and the effects of change*

Members from these communities have been involved in the CPA's information management and documentation, and also participated in the evaluation programme, and are therefore familiar with the significance of ensuring that an evaluating mechanism must be a fundamental component of their network's program objectives and activities in the future.

➤ *Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks.*

The Broadlands Park and Nomzamo Safety Network is committed to establishing safety promotion as a priority in their neighbourhoods by networking with the relevant stakeholders, Government and safety promotion agencies. In addition, it looks forward to continue its collaborative safety relationship with the UNISA – CPA (WHO Safe Communities Affiliate Centre in Africa), thereby strengthening and contributing to the enhancement of the safe communities network in South Africa, Africa ( i.e. Injury Prevention Initiative in Africa (IPIFA)and Internationally (SAFE COMMUNITIES NETWORK).

**3. WHAT VALUE WILL A SAFE COMMUNITIES DESIGNATION ADD TO THE STATUS OF THE BROADLANDS PARK & NOMZAMO SAFETY NETWORK IN CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA.**

The Broadlands Park & Nomzamo Safe Communities Network (BPNSCN) is a unique endeavour in the Western Cape, South Africa and Africa, in general) bringing together community residents, neighbouring communities, and partnering with safety promotion agencies, professionals, research institutions, business and Government, around the issue of injury prevention through a combination of community development and public health principles. Safe Communities Designation will consolidate its existing alliance with the UNISA – CPA –WHO Safe Affiliate Centre and IPIFA. This recognition will bolster South Africa and Africa's safety imperatives by identifying the programme with similar initiatives elsewhere in the world, and confirming to its many stakeholders at a local, national and continental level that what they are doing is in line with broader international trends. More importantly, to ensure that safety as a human right features prominently in its African Renaissance Agenda which supports the " Africa Violence Prevention 2005 " initiative.

## APPENDIX 1

### 1. BACKGROUND OF COMMUNITIES: *Nomzamo and Broadlands Park*

*Nomzamo* is a community between Somerset-West and the Strand. About 8000 people live in Nomzamo. Most people speak Xhosa, although some have Sotho and Afrikaans as their home languages. The word Nomzamo is a Xhosa word, which means *effort, try* or in other words, *there has been a struggle*. The meaning of the name Nomzamo describes the great effort that was made in setting up the Nomzamo neighbourhood.

The people of Nomzamo were first settled at a place called “Waterkloof”, an informal settlement or squatter camp about one or two kilometers away from where Nomzamo is. Initially, families from Transkei and of those who stayed at the hostels in nearby Lwandle and Mfulene moved to this area. The land at Waterkloof belonged to a private owner, who in the early 1990s threatened the people with removal from the land. As a result, people there started talks with the Strand Municipality. A new piece of land was identified and serviced by the then Cape Provincial Administration. In March 1994, just before the national elections, people were informed to move to the land set aside at *Nomzamo*, thus named for the effort that this community made to set up their own neighbourhood. People moved and rebuilt their shacks on the serviced erven’s.

People are now staying in Nomzamo for 5 years. Organizations were formally established during this period. The South African National Civic Organization (SANCO) and the African National Congress (ANC) were organizations that existed at the time. The leaders of Nomzamo come from these organizations. SANCO had to look at the needs of the people, via structures like street committees, which focus directly on the concerns of people in specific streets. The municipality is rendering services, and refuse is being removed twice a week. There is one clinic, which gives basic health care services. People are still waiting in anticipation for houses to be built in this area. The present population of Nomzamo is approximately 20 000 people.

**Broadlands Park** is an area that contains Beverley Hills, China Town and Morkel Cottage. The people from the three areas were moved to Broadlands Park in 1999/2000.

Beverley Hills, Morkel Cottage and China Town were formed after a housing shortage in 1995. People in the area had been waiting for housing for 20 years, but had received no houses.

Reacting to this problem, the members of SANCO met with the Helderberg Board to find out what they could do, and when the housing shortage would be solved. They received little help from the board due to a lack of funds. Following the lack of help from the Board, SANCO members held a meeting with the community to discuss a solution to the problem. The community decided together that they would make use of the nearby two available plots. The plots were divided immediately, and people built their dwellings on their sections.

The community then discovered that they had settled on private land. After negotiations with the Board and the landowners, it was agreed that the community could continue living on the land until December 1995.

Because the community had gained rights to this land, they decided to name them Beverley Hills, because flushable toilets and water taps could be provided for each shack, while the other was named China Town, where there was one point for water collection to be shared between 185 houses. Morkell cottage derived its name from Mr Morkell who owned this piece of land.

In 1999, most of the people residing in the three areas were moved to a new approved land, Tarentaal Plaas. In 2000, the community decided to re-name this area as Broadlands Park. The present population of Broadlands Park is approximately 15 000 people.

## **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON RISK AND RESILENCY TO INJURIES**

### **2 (a) *NOMZAMO FACT BOOK – REFER ATTACHMENT***

### **2 (b) *BROADLANDS PARK FACT BOOK – REFER ATTACHMENT***

### **3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON UNISA – CPA (COLLABORATIVE PARTNER WITH THE BROADLANDS PARK & NOMZAMO SAFETY NETWORK) IN PROMOTING SAFETY PROGRAMS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOODS**

The Unisa Institute for Social and Health Sciences (ISHS) endeavours to function as an internationally and locally recognized African research, service delivery, and educational centre of excellence within the social and health sciences, more specifically within the health and safety promotion fields, encouraging expertise in specific methodological, theoretical, policy and intervention areas.

The ISHS was formed in 1997 following a University of South Africa (Unisa) senate decision to combine the University's Institute for Behavioural Sciences (IBS) and its Health Psychology Unit (HPU) which include the Centre for Peace Action. Whereas the HPU was established in 1986, the IBS was created in 1974.

The Institute is a *WHO Collaborating Centre for Injury and Violence Prevention Research and Training*, and with the Johannesburg South West Metropolitan Council its Centre for Peace Action is part of the Global *WHO Safe Communities Network of Demonstration Programmes*.

#### ***The Centre for Peace Action: Mission and Vision***

Since 1990, the Institute has maintained its Centre for Peace Action in the Johannesburg southwest suburbs of Eldorado Park, Ennerdale, Lenasia and Chiawelo as a test-bed for the development and evaluation of community-based violence and injury prevention programmes. More recently, in 1997, the Institute began safety promotion programmes in several *Helderberg communities of the Strand in the Western Cape*. The Centre - drawing on the surveillance and other epidemiological data focuses on testing the development of services for the prevention of injuries due to violence and accidents and the psychosocial care of survivors of violence. Following the principles of best practice, its interventions include youth and women's services, counselling facilities, home and community safety programmes and traffic safety initiatives. With the Johannesburg South-West Metropolitan Council, the Centre has since 1997 been a member of WHO's Global Network of Safe Community Demonstration Programmes. For an overview of the Centre see the Karolinska Institute's Safe Community web site at: <http://www.ki.se/phs/wcc-csp/safecom/main.html>.

Fundamental to the CPA's approach is the public health vision of injuries due to violence and other causes as a major contributor to death, disability and psychosocial morbidity, and therefore to the global and national burden of disease. Central to this vision is a focus on changing the social, behavioural and environmental factors that cause injuries and violence. Accordingly, the behavioural tendencies of individuals and groups are not seen as the origin or end-point of injurious action, but as the outcome of causal relationships between individuals and other people (e.g. peers, parents), individuals and products (e.g. guns, alcohol, motor vehicles; fossil fuels), and individuals and environments (i.e. physical and social). These relationships are the lines of risk for violence and injury, and through appropriate research and intervention can be manipulated to prevent the problem.









