



Australian Safe  
Communities  
Foundation

## Australian Safe Communities Foundation Inc

Certifying Centre for Safe Community Programs

On behalf of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion,  
Department of Public Health Sciences, Division of Social Medicine, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

### Safe Community Casey Community No. 156

#### Vision:

*'That the City of Casey will be locally, nationally and internationally recognised as a city that is both safe and perceived to be safe. It will be recognised for its innovative, effective, collaborative, and sustainable approach to safety, health and well-being issues.'*

Country:	<b>Australia</b>
Number of inhabitants:	<b>238,336 (30 June 2008)</b>
Program started year:	<b>1998</b>
International Safe Communities Network Membership:	<b>Designation Year 2009</b>
Full application available:	

#### For further information contact:

Name:	Caroline Bell		
Institution:	City of Casey		
Address:	PO Box 1000, Magid Drive, Narre Warren VIC 3805		
Country:	Australia		
Phone:	+61 3 9705 5276	Facsimile:	+61 3 9796 7712
Email:	<a href="mailto:cbell@casey.vic.gov.au">cbell@casey.vic.gov.au</a>		
Website:	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>		

The City of Casey has a major role in ensuring all residents and visitors can work, live and play in a safe and secure environment, free of risk to health and wellbeing. Community Safety relates to both the community's perception of community safety risks to wellbeing, as well as the actual incidence of crime and injury.

The City of Casey is committed to community safety and has implemented the Community Safety Strategy 2006-2011, the Road Safety Strategy 2006-2011 and Casey Public Health Plan 2002-2008 to improve safety in acknowledgement of the strong community desire to feel safe and secure.

The **City of Casey Safe Communities Program** is managed and funded by the Casey City Council, and sits within its Community Safety Department. The Safe Communities Program direction is monitored and guided by the **Safer Casey Partnership**, comprising of representation from a wide cross-section of Government, non-Government and community agencies in Casey. These are as follows:

- *Victoria Police*
- *Department of Human Services Southern Metropolitan Region (DHS)*
- *VicRoads*
- *Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)*
- *Country Fire Authority (CFA)*
- *Cardinia Casey Community Health Service (CCCHS)*
- *City of Casey – Community Safety Department*
- *City of Casey – Traffic Department*

#### *New Members April 2009*

- *Yooralla (Disability Services)*
- *Department of Justice*

## **Safer Casey Partnership**

### **Context**

The City of Casey received funding from the Department of Justice under VicSafe's Safer Cities and Shires program to develop the strategic plan: *Safer Casey, A Plan for Community Safety*. As part of Council's ongoing commitment to community safety, in July 2000 a permanent position of Community Safety Officer was created to assist in the implementation of Council's Community Safety Plan to work towards a Safer Casey.

In July 2002, an internal restructure saw the formation of a Community Safety Department and Unit with an organisational focus on community safety issues.

With the introduction of Local Priority Policing in Victoria Police an amalgamation of the Safer Cities and Shire's Senior Management Team and Victoria Police's Local Safety Committee occurred to form the Safer Casey Management Committee.

In June 2003, a planning forum of key stakeholders reviewed the achievements of this committee and identified future direction under the new name of **Safer Casey Partnership**.

### **Definition of Community Safety**

The right of all individuals living, learning, working or visiting Casey to go about their daily pursuits without fear or risk of harm or injury; and the shared responsibility of Government agencies and all other people in the community to ensure this is possible.

With a focus on:

- Safety in private space  
i.e. home, school, business
- Safety in public space  
i.e. street, recreational & entertainment precincts
- Safe movement between private and public spaces  
i.e. public transport, roads, private motor vehicles
- Working together to build a Safer Casey through effective partnerships.
- A Safer Casey is a (socially, economically and environmentally) sustainable city in which communities are safe and people feel safe in all aspects of their lives.

## **Purpose of the Safer Casey Partnership**

The individual agencies who are members of **Safer Casey Partnership** are working to improve the well being of all people in Casey by reducing the impact of intentional and unintentional injury and harm on individuals, families, schools, workplaces, business and communities whether as a result of:

- Natural disasters, fires and other emergencies
- Anti-social or criminal behaviour
- Road crashes
- Built environment
- Business processes or
- Ill health

The Partnership recognises the need for flexibility in addressing emerging safety issues that arise within the municipality. The Partnership will guide and support each other in preparing and maintaining our relevant plans and strategies.

## **Key Tasks of the Safer Casey Partnership**

The **Safer Casey Partnership** will seek to reduce the impact of injury and harm by undertaking the following strategies:

- Identify gaps in community safety provision within the municipality.
- Identifying best practice in community safety.
- Share and attract resources and provide expert consultation to each other.
- Advocating to local, state and federal governments and agencies of key community safety issues.
- Promote coordinated action and build partnerships with agencies that can influence community safety.
- Identify mechanisms to communicate with related safety committees and community groups.
- Identify funding avenues to assist action groups to address key emerging issues.
- Identifying emerging issues and referring these to established committees for consideration.
- Share any innovative approaches and tools with local groups and individuals to support them to take appropriate action to improve community safety in their own environment.

The Safer Casey Partnership meets on a quarterly basis.

## **Project Description List**

The Project Description List was completed by the Safer Casey Partnership and Departments within the City of Casey that have programs and initiatives addressing one or more of the following:

- Crime Prevention;
- Injury Prevention; and
- Health and Wellbeing.

The Project Description List provides brief descriptions of ongoing programs together with current and recent initiatives, using the “10-P” framework. The “10-P framework was developed by the Safer Casey Partnership Research Group to provide a brief statement of project objectives, target groups and resources.

The Project Description List is a comprehensive list encompassing approximately ninety programs currently offered within the City of Casey. However it is recognised that the list is not exhaustive and there are many other projects operating within the local community or at a community based level.

## Project Register

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TARGET GROUP	AREA SERVICED	FURTHER DETAILS	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY
Community Training and Risk Management	Provide information on risk management for community groups.	Community Organisations.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Black Spots	Improvements of high casualty accident road locations.	Road users.	City of Casey.	Local media & City News.	City of Casey.
Local Traffic Management (LTM) Strategy	Installation of traffic calming devices on local roads.	All age groups.	City of Casey.	Local media & City News.	City of Casey.
Linking Paths Program	Improving community links and health and well being.	All age groups.	City of Casey.	Local media.	City of Casey.
Tobacco Test Purchasing	To educate and monitor sale of tobacco from retailers.	Retailers.	City of Casey.	Local media. <a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Immunisation Program	Provide an Immunisation Program in line with National Health and Medical Research Council Guidelines.	Predominately children under 18 years old.	City of Casey.	Local media. <a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Falls Prevention Network	A partnership that addresses risk of falls in the home and strategies to prevent.	Frail, aged.	City of Casey.		South Eastern Healthy Communities Partnership.
Casey Multi-Faith Network Inc	A network of religious faith leaders that work towards religious racial harmony.	Faith denominations.	City of Casey.	St Paul Apostle Catholic Church, Endeavour Hills.	Casey Multi-Faith Network Inc.
Ageing Positively	Elder abuse local area network development, response and referrals.	Residents over 55 years old.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.

GLOVE	Council working with Melbourne University to develop best practice policy in relation to family violence.	Local Government	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.avp.unimelb.edu.au/research/funded/glove">www.avp.unimelb.edu.au/research/funded/glove</a>	University of Melbourne.
Promoting Peace in Families	Family violence prevention.	Families.	City of Casey.		City of Casey.
Neighbourhood Watch	Crime Prevention and Community Safety.	Residents.	City of Casey.		Neighbourhood Watch.
New Estate Community Development Program	To provide opportunities for residents of services available to them, meet their neighbours and feel part of their community.	Residents.	City of Casey.		City of Casey.
Casey Connect	A community portal in the website that links community groups and individuals in the City of Casey.	Community Organisations. Residents.	City of Casey.		City of Casey.
Community Building Initiative	To work with the community to develop and identify key community needs.	Residents	Blind Blight. Cannons Creek. Tooradin. Warneet.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Inclusion Support Agency (ISA)	Promotes and maintain high quality child care and inclusion of all children in eligible child care centres.	Children in Child Care Centres.	City of Casey	<a href="http://www.facsia.gov.au/inclusion/support">www.facsia.gov.au/inclusion/support</a>	City of Casey. Shire of Cardinia. City of Greater Dandenong.
Playgroup Development	To assist and support the development of playgroups.	Children under 4 years. Parents.	City of Casey.	Directories. Quarterly Education/Activity Day.	City of Casey.
Linking Early Years	Improving knowledge of early years service professionals, awareness of early years	Children's Services professionals.	Cranbourne.	<a href="http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au">www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au</a>	City of Casey.
Primary School Years Community Development Program	Promotes and advocate for programs targeting children in primary school and their families.	Children aged 5 – 12 years and their families.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Casey Alert Location Manager (CALM)	Computer based mapping system to identify vulnerable communities in times of emergencies.	All age groups	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.

Graffiti Education Program	Educational program for year 5 & 8 students about the consequences of graffiti vandalism.	Children aged 10-14 years.	City of Casey.		City of Casey.
Graffiti Hotline	24/7 reporting of graffiti (free call) for graffiti removal.	Residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Communications program	Informing the broader Casey community of Council's Community Safety initiatives and programs.	All age groups.	City of Casey.	Broad circulation of information to entire Casey community as well as State and National audiences as appropriate.	City of Casey.
HACC -Workwise/Nurse Care Plan Development.	Reduction of injury and creation of safe working practices for staff involved in home care.	Direct Care Workers.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
HACC – Safety Checks of Home/Home Maintenance Service	Identify hazards in the home and reduce/eliminate by modification.	Frail aged and disabled residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
HACC – OHS	To prevent injuries to staff, clients and residents in the home.	Frail aged and disabled residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
SPOT (Supporting Parents of Teenagers)	Providing parenting strategies for parents of teenagers.	Parents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au">www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Looking After Our Mates	Information awareness about drug and alcohol.	Children aged 14 – 18 years.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au">www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
BRAVE (Behaviour Risk and Values Education)	Students explore own values & risk taking behaviour including supporting health, social and emotional development.	Children aged 14 – 16 years.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au">www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Youth Support Program	Free service that gives young people someone to talk to and assist in difficult times.	Young people aged 12 -25 years.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au">www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Mobile Youth Information Centre	Converted passenger bus that provides activities, information and support on a variety of issues relevant to young people and their families.	Young people. Families.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au">www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Community Care Project	To provide physiotherapist assistance to staff at high risk of musculoskeletal injuries.	Employees.	City of Casey.	Health and wellbeing brochure. Inter-council safety group.	City of Casey.

Health and Wellbeing Workgroup	To inform staff of the benefits of health and wellbeing.	Employees	City of Casey.	Health and wellbeing brochure. Staff Intranet.	City of Casey.
New Parents Groups	To provide, education, support and guidance to new parents.	Parents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Maternal and Child Health First Home Visit	To engage, educate, enforce, engineer and empower within a home setting.	Parents with newborns & babies.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Key Age and Stage Consultations across the Universal Service	Educating and empowering families of young children by providing health information and checks.	Parents. Children up to 6 years.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Hoon Hotline	Telephone service to report careless and irresponsible driving on local roads.	Residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
'50 in My Street'	A bin sticker program to assist the community in speed reduction programs for their local streets.	Residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Fatigue – Driver Reviver Site	A driver reviver site over holiday periods offering drivers an opportunity to stop, refresh and have a free tea/coffee, breaking up their journey.	Road Users.	Cranbourne.	<a href="http://www.roadsafe.org.au">www.roadsafe.org.au</a>	RoadSafe Outer South East.
Fit to Drive	Program for novice drivers to develop a greater awareness of risks and factors that contribute to road crashes.	Children aged 16-18 years.	City of Casey.	Information and booking forms sent to all schools.	RoadSafe Outer South East.
Casey Road Safety Education Centre & CFA Learning Centre	Providing a safe learning environment to develop road safety and fire safety awareness with both theory and practical experience.	Children aged 4 – 12 years.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey & CFA
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)	To reduce crime through design and research.	Residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Dads Matter	Identifies the needs of fathers through active, enthusiastic engagement and consultation.	Fathers and their children.	Cranbourne.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Men's Health Action Group	To raise awareness of men's health issues in the community.	Men.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.

Young Parents Support	Project focuses on improving the health of young parents by creating strong relationships.	Young parents aged 21 and under.	Cranbourne.	<a href="http://www.casey.vic.gov.au">www.casey.vic.gov.au</a>	City of Casey.
Juvenile Fire Awareness Intervention Program	Reduction of potentially dangerous fire lighting behaviour in children.	Children aged 4 to 16 years of age.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.
Brigades in Schools	General fire safety education program.	Children aged 5 – 12 years of age.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.
Community Fire Guard	Detailed bushfire safety education.	All ages.	High Wildfire Risk Areas.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.
Early Fire Safety	Fires safety education on child burns prevention, house fire prevention and development of home fire escape plans.	New mothers.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.
Fire Ready Victoria	Bushfire safety education, preparing residents in their homes for bushfires.	All ages.	High Wildfire Risk Areas.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.
Fire up English	Fire safety education, for house fire prevention for people with non-English speaking backgrounds.	Non English speaking residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.
Home Fire Safety Workshops	Fire safety education for house fire prevention and development of home fire escape plans.	Residents.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.
Isolated Elderly	Fire safety education for burn prevention, house fire prevention delivered to carers of an at risk group.	Carers.	City of Casey.	<a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a>	CFA.

A comprehensive Project Register can be viewed on the Casey Website at [www.casey.vic.gov.au](http://www.casey.vic.gov.au)



## **Perceptions of Local Safety Survey**

Annually, the City of Casey undertakes a statistically significant 'Perceptions of Local Safety Survey' aimed at a cross-section of the community and asks questions pertaining to safe amenity, anti-social behaviour, crime, child safety, and road safety.

Results for the 2008 survey reflect that almost all residents interviewed (94%) reported feeling 'safe' or 'very safe' overall as they went about their normal activities.

The times and places where residents believed they would be least likely to feel safe were:

- On trains at night with just 20% of residents feeling safe in this situation (even during the day trains were only perceived to be safe by 71% of residents);
- On buses at night (44%);
- In streets and public places at night (64%); and
- At local shops at night (62% in 2007, yet a significant increase can be noted for 2008, with the perception of safety increasing to 69%).

## **Participation in National Safe Communities Networks**

The City of Casey is a member of the Victorian Safe Communities Network (VSCN) and regularly supports programs and initiatives such as Community Safety Month, and has presented at a number of seminars, forums and conferences on community safety, health and well-being topics. Presentations include:

- Benefits of a Safe Communities Approach (Working Together for safe Child-friendly Communities: a Statewide Forum) – 26 March 2009

A community safety presentation was made at the national conference delivered by the Australian Institute of Criminology titled '*Improving Community Safety Lessons from the Country and the City 18-19 October 2007.*' The presentation was titled '*Graffiti and Hoon Hotlines*' and outlined the benefits of having 24 hours call centre availability to report graffiti vandalism and hoon driving.

The City of Casey Safe Community Program will continue to provide safety promotion and injury prevention services and support for existing and new communities, and to share the knowledge and experience gained through the program with other safe community programs across Australia and in other countries.