

**Application to Become a Member of
the International Safe Community Network**

for International Designation as a Safe Community by the WHO

Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion

**DongShan Township, Yi-Lan County,
TAIWAN**

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I. Introduction

1.1 Population and Geographic Location

Dongshan Township is located in the north-eastern region of Yilan County, on the Lanyang Plains south of Lanyang River. The Township covers an area of 79.8581 square kilometers. According to the statistics of December 2007, the total population of Dongshan Township is 51,391, home to 16,272 families. The structure of the population consists of 26,611 males and 24,780 females, the ratio is approximately 1.08. 6,512 of the residents are above the age of 65 (12.6%), 2,832 are under the age of 6, making it an aging society, population decreasing due to outflow. Dongshan Township lacks emergency medical resources, with only one public health center. When there is a case of vital injury, the patient must be transported to hospitals nearby Lo-Tong Township to receive medical care. Unable to get immediate and proper medical care makes local residents feel unsafe.

Chart 1. Basic Data of Dongshan
Area : 79.8581 Square Kilometers
Districts : 24
Total Population : 51,391
Families : 16,272
Male : 26,611 人
Female : 24,780 人
Population above 65 : 6,512 人(12.6%)
Population under 60 : 2,832 人(5.54%)
Main Industry : Agriculture and tourism
Total Cultivation Area : 531,213 hectares
Private Accommodation: 87
(Source : Household Registration Office, Dongshan Township, December 2007)

Location



1.2 Vocations and Industries

Dongshan Township's economy is based on agriculture and tourism. Tea and pomelo are specialties here; over 49.3% of the labor is engaged in fruit growing, tea and other agricultural activities. The booming number of tourists in recent years leads to prosperous leisure industry of Dongshan, including B&B, and farm tourism.



1.3 The Injury Risk Related to the Special Environment

Dongshan Township is located in the hills, thus the agricultural development and industrial structure is distinct from other parts of Yilan County. In the early stages of agricultural development, the residents of Dongshan County grew tea and fruits for a living. Nowadays, they face industrial transformation, gradually changing the tea making industry in two directions: high-quality agriculture and leisure agriculture. There are six leisure agriculture areas: Ta-chin, Zhongshan, Zhen Zhu, DongShan, Meihua Lake and Lo-Tong, each with distinct tourism character. Dongshan Township also holds the International Children's Folklore & Folkgame Festival and the Yilan International Rain Festival. After the Hsuehshan Tunnel opens, Dongshan continues to attract more tourists. The statistics gathered by the Department of Business and Tourism, Yilan County in 2007 showed that over 1,384,673 people, three times greater than the Town's population, visited this area. The stream of tourists brings in another issue: the recreational quality and transportation loading. The Town's transportation system is mainly Provincial Highway 9 and town roads. Bicycles, motorcycles, and cars are the main way of transportation here. Even though tourism brings business for Dongshan, it has also impacts the transport safety.



1.4 Overview of injuries of the community

Injury is the 5th death cause on the top ten in Taiwan in 2007, with a death rate of 27.9 per hundred thousand people; yet the death rate of Yilan County is 45.2, and in Dongshan it is as high 48.8, ranking the 4th death cause in both areas. (Figs. 1, 2)

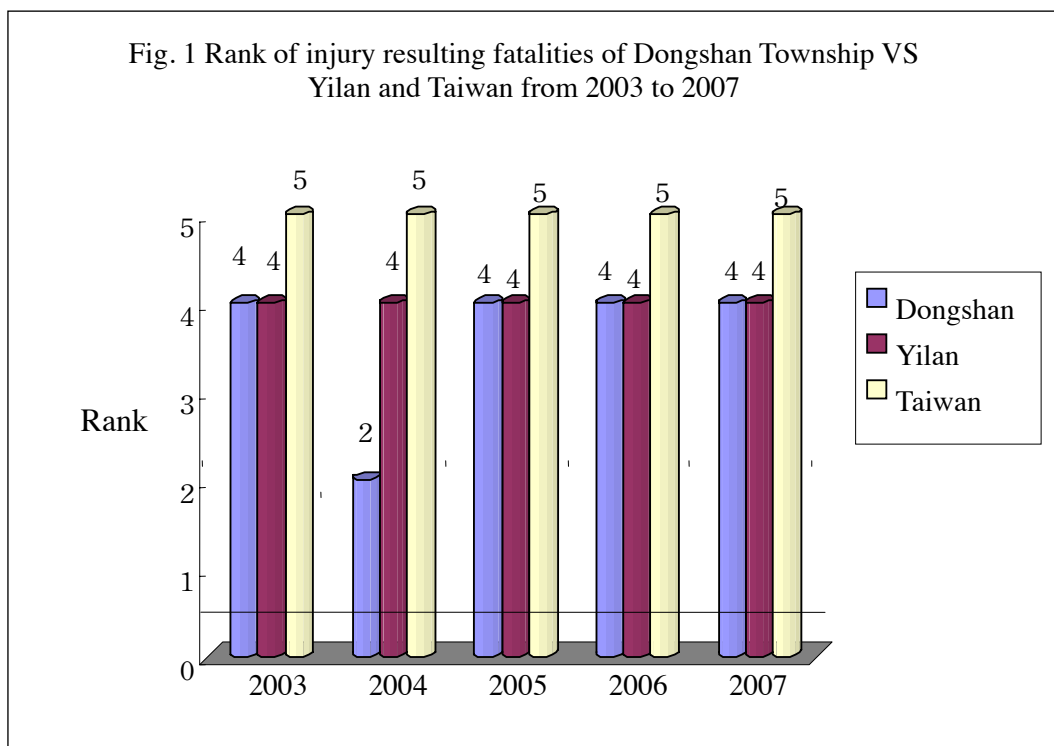
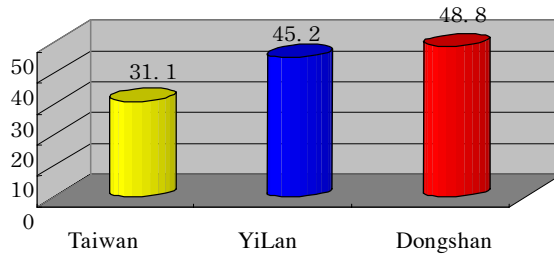


Fig. 2 Death Rate of Injuries resulting Fatalities
per hundred thousand people in 2007



The data of 2003-2007 Dongshan Township's deaths caused by injury (Fig. 3) showed that traffic injury is ranked top, and fall the second. The police department's 2007 traffic incident reports also revealed that 14 death cases and 436 wounded cases (Fig. 4).

Fig. 3 Dongshan Township's Deaths Caused by Injury from 2003 to 2007

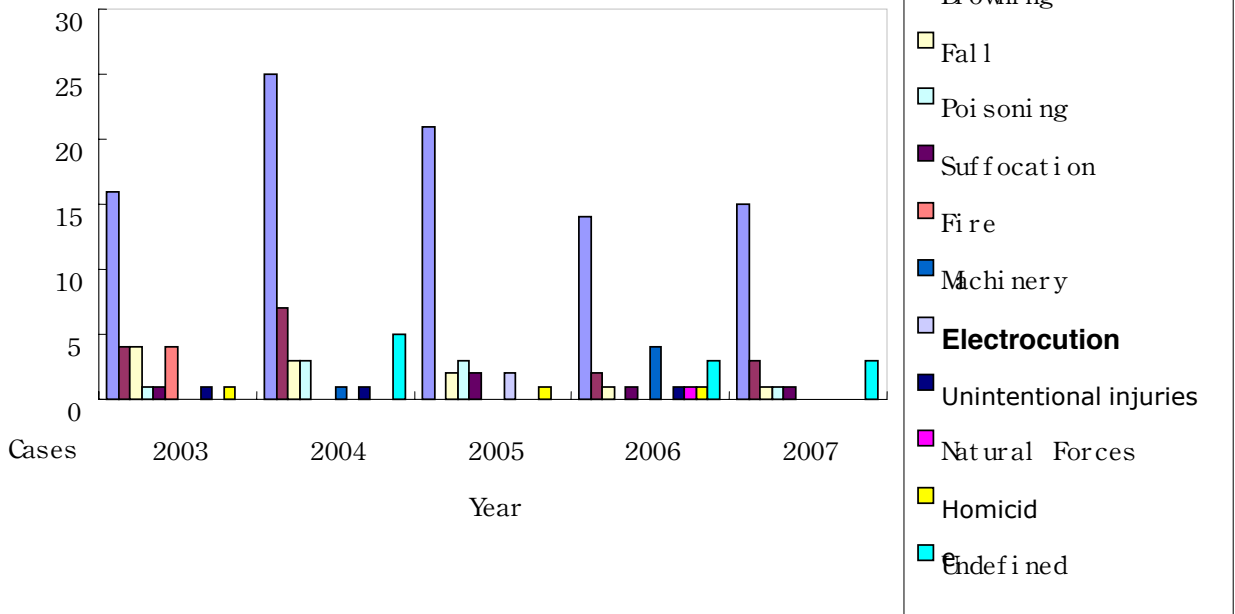
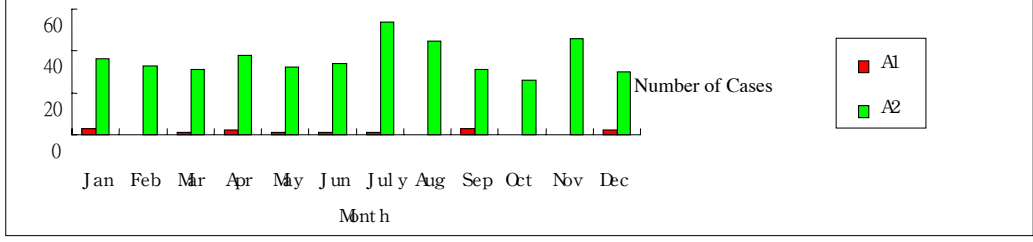


Fig. 4 Dongshan Township's Traffic Incident Report of 2007



A1: Cases of victims dead on scene or within 24 hours of the incident

A2: Cases of Victims injured from the incident (Source: Police Department, Yilan County)

These incidents result in damages to the welfare of oneself and family, and also in economic loss

and do harm to the society. Additionally, the boom of tourists and traffic in recent years push Dongshan Township to actively plan various injury prevention programs and develop the safe community program. All efforts are to provide a safe and quality living environment for local residents and travelers.

1.5 Injury Prevention Plan

According to the injury data of Dongshan Township, the main plan is to prevent injury caused by traffic, fall, drowning, burn, suffocation, poisoning, etc. The strategies we use include strengthening the functions of the administrative committee, promoting safety knowledge and education, raising safety awareness of the locals, and improving the living environment. We will safeguard people of all age groups, and pay special attention to children, youths, elderly, farmers, women, minorities, tourists, and other high risk groups.

We develop safety promotion programs as following:

- Home safety
- Road safety
- Farming safety
- Bike helmets for children
- Leisure safety
- Elderly safety
- School safety
- Fall injury prevention

Besides the programs listed above, injury surveillance program will be formed based on the data of Health Center of Dongshan Township and the fire brigade. The injury surveillance program will fully record case numbers and the causes. It will serve as a long term assessment on Dongshan Safe Community Program and the basis for planning safety promotion programs.

II. Goals and Targets

2.1 National Goals and Targets

In Taiwan, injury prevention is led by the Department of Health (DOH), Executive Yuan. Over the years, injury ranked the 5th of the top ten death causes. The Bureau of Health Promotion, DOH, hopes to promote the safe community program by rooting into the community to reduce injury. (Source: 2020 White Paper on the National Health Essentials)

2.2 Regional Goals and Targets

Injury ranked the 4th death cause in Yilan County from 2003 to 2007. In order to effectively reduce injury, the Yilan County Government listed the safe community program promotion as the Important County Plan. With a view to take care of every county resident, the Yilan County will continuously work on safe community campaign.

2.3 District Goals and Targets

Dongshan Township's safe community program links local public sectors, private sectors, non-government organizations, and residents to be responsible for all types of injury prevention and safety promotion. Our organization consists of administrative committee, secretariat, injury surveillance group, and five working groups (home safety, school safety, road safety, agriculture safety, and leisure safety).

By developing the safe community program not only brings different resources for the township, but also digs out the community's injury issues to solve. With systematically developing, Dongshan efficiently decrease the number of injury. Thus making Dongshan as the model in Yilan County, the safe community program comes to root in Yilan and boost Dongshan's tourism industry.

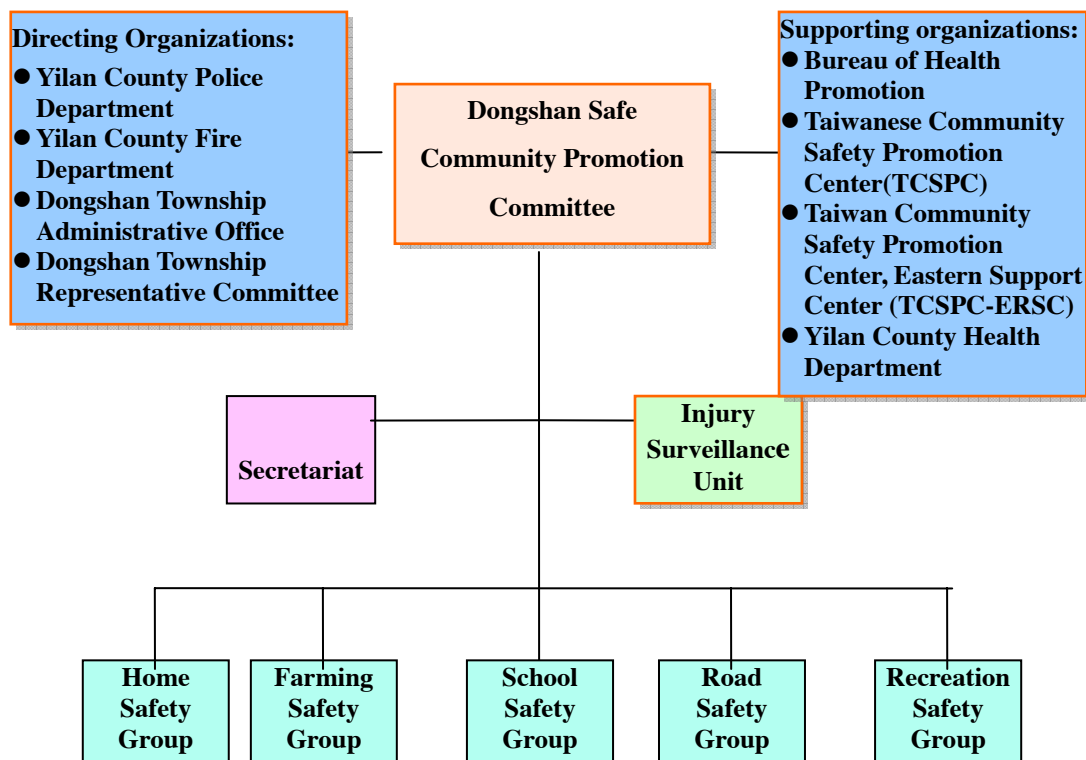
III. Dongshan Safe Community Program

3.1 Indicator 1. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community.

3.1.1 Organization development

In 2006, Dongshan Township initiated its safe community program, and accordingly established the Dongshan Safe Community Promotion Committee (organization chart see Fig. 5) as the primary organization to implement the works of resource integration and coordination. Members of the organization include representation from different sectors of the community, for example: government organizations, NGOs, corporations, resident representatives, etc. The purpose of the promotion center is to collaborate with other organizations and coordinate the collective efforts of public and private sectors invested in safety promotion and injury prevention programs. It is the foremost goal of the promotion center to reduce the number of injury occurrences and advance safety awareness in Dongshan Township, while actively improving the quality of life for its residents. Over the years, the safe community promotion programs have produced remarkable outcomes, and brought about noticeable progress in building consensus within the community regarding safety issues.

Fig. 5 Organization chart of the Dongshan Safe Community Promotion Committee



3.1.2 Organization meetings

Dongshan SC Promotion Committee will convene meetings periodically, where committee

members are to discuss the latest developments, futures strategies and evaluated the effectiveness of current undertakings. The modalities of the meetings are as follows:

- Reference Group

A reference group meeting is to be held every three months, whereby the primary purpose is to effectively carry out the devised programs which include: formulate SC promotion policies, establish communication with partnering organizations on safety related issues, consolidate human and material resources, hear from each task force group on the progress and difficulties of their respective programs, provide necessary assistance to resolve the difficulties faced, and conduct experience exchange sessions with domestic and international SC networks.

- Working Groups

The Dongshan Safe Community program is administered through six task force groups, namely: the home safety group; the school safety group; the farming safety group; the road safety group; the recreation safety group; and the injury surveillance group. A meeting should be convoke by the head of each group every two months for the purpose of briefing group members on the most recent injury occurrences, formulate improvement plans, conduct safety promotion activities and trainings, and evaluate the effectiveness of programs that are under way. When necessary, task force groups will also give presentations of their progress at reference group meetings.

3.1.3 Working groups and functions

Chart 2. The working groups of Dongshan Safe Community Promotion Committee



Full board meeting



Task force group meeting



To promote SC program in community

Name of groups	Group members	Task details
Reference Group	Committee chairman, deputy chairman, advisory group, health care volunteer squad	Integrate available societal resources, and utilizing them for the safety promotion and injury prevention programs
Task Force Groups		
Secretariat	Staffed with one director-general and one executive secretary	Data compilation and program implementation
Injury Surveillance	Community health promotion volunteers; health clinic;	Establish injury surveillance system and compile injury data; provide educational

	township administrative office; heads of neighborhoods and villages; fire, household registration and social work departments; Mental Rehabilitation Association	trainings; implement school and community injury surveillance programs; implement safety promotion programs
Home Safety	Association for community development; evergreen club of the village administrative office; community health care volunteers; neighborhood watch; representatives of the community mothering class	Promote home safety programs for seniors and children.
Farming Safety	Dongshan Township Farmers' Association; community health care volunteers; members of the production and marketing class; representatives from the company that designed the traceability system of agricultural products; owner's representative of tea plantations	Provide training for: proper usage of pesticide protection equipments, management of storage facilities, and application of the traceability system of agricultural products.
School Safety	School faculties and nurses; lollipop lady; community health care volunteers; representatives of PTAs	Evaluation of the school environment; promote student safety education programs; advancement safety promotion skills
Road Safety	Police department; construction division of the township administrative office; members of the neighborhood watch; community health care volunteers; resident representative	Road safety inspections and traffic injury prevention.
Recreation Safety	Forestry Bureau; association for community development; community recreation center; community health care volunteers; Bureau of water resources; bed and breakfast development association; temples	Inspection of the safety of recreation environment and promote recreation safety.

3.1.4 Partnering and collaborating organizations

Chart 3. Partnership of Dongshan Safe Community Promotion Committee

Partnership	Injury surveillance program	Home safety program	School safety program	Farming safety program	Road safety program	Recreation safety program
Department of Health	★					

Maintenance Office Directorate General of Highways, Ministry Transportation And Communications					★	
Yilan County Government	★	★	★	★	★	★
Dongshan Township Administrative Office	★	★	★	★	★	★
Dongshan Health Clinic	★	★	★	★	★	★
Yilan County Health Bureau	★	★	★	★	★	★
Police Department	★	★	★		★	
Department of social affairs	★	★				
Schools	★		★		★	
Dongshan Township Farmer's Union	★			★		
NGOs		★		★	★	★
Health care volunteers	★	★	★	★	★	★
Heads of neighborhoods and villages	★	★			★	★
Corporate groups		★	★	★		★
Temples		★				★
Village administrative offices	★				★	
Forestry Bureau of the Council of Agriculture					★	★
Power companies					★	
Catholic churches		★			★	

3.2 Indicator 2. Long-term, sustainable programs covering both genders and all ages, environments, and situations

The safe community programs do not discriminate against any particular gender or age group. Instead, the program encompasses the whole community. By organizing workshops, it allows township residents the autonomy to propose relevant safety agendas for discussion basing on their needs. Furthermore, specific programs are tailored to serve the most vulnerable groups within the community.

Chart 4. Dongshan safe community program

Programs	Improvement Plans	Target Age Groups (for both genders)				
		0-6	7-14	15-24	25-64	65+
Home safety- * Elderly safety * Environment safety * Child safety	Home visits and safety inspections	*	*	*	*	*
	Conduct and follow up on home safety improvement plans	*	*	*	*	
	Home safe behavior education training plans	*	*	*	*	
	Installation of handrails and anti-slippery measures in bathrooms	*				*
	Falling prevention training for seniors					*
	Collision prevention training for children	*				
	Safe medication usage seminar	*	*	*	*	*
	Promotion of home safety education programs	*	*	*	*	*
Farming safety- * Safe farming environment * Farming machinery and storage safety * Safe usage of pesticide	Conduct survey and evaluation of farming environments			*	*	
	Training for farm working			*	*	
	Education and training courses on the correct use of pesticides			*	*	
	Farming machinery and storage management training				*	
	Improvement of unsafe farming environments	*	*	*	*	*
	Educational sessions on safe farming equipments			*	*	
	Establish traceability system of agricultural products			*	*	
Road Safety- * Safe roads * Safe road environment * Children's helmet wearing * Safe usage of roads	Inspection for high-risk roads	*	*	*	*	*
	Diagnosis of high-risk environments	*	*	*	*	
	Education program for prospective road safety personnel			*	*	
	Community education on road safety			*	*	
	Improvement plan for high-risk roads	*	*	*	*	
	Conduct on-site evaluation, investigation and analysis	*				
	Promote safety education		*	*	*	*

	Police intervention in safety promotion	*	*	*	*	*
School Safety- * School safety * Safe school environment * Safe usage of school facilities	Promote traffic safety education for children		*	*		
	Education and training courses on school safety		*	*	*	
	Education and training courses for school faculties and parents			*	*	
	Establish school emergency response mechanism		*			
	Inspect for hazardous areas in schools		*	*		
	Regular maintenance and repair of facilities		*	*	*	
	Education		*			
	Safe cycling training camps		*			
	Drowning prevention trainings		*			
	Recreation Safety- * Safety of trails * Recreational environment safety *Recreation facility usage safety	Evaluation of high-risk trails	*	*	*	*
Visit and diagnose high-risk areas		*	*	*	*	*
Education and training courses on recreation safety for prospective personnel			*	*		
Community education and training courses on recreation safety			*	*		
Management of recreational trails and facility renovation		*	*	*	*	*
Regulate unsafe recreation environment		*	*	*	*	*
* Safety promotion program for foreign spouses	Traffic safety education		*	*		
	Scooter riding course			*		
	Recruit foreign volunteer to assist in safety promotion	*	*	*	*	
	Safe child care-taking training for foreign spouses			*	*	
	Scooter license exam for foreign spouses			*		
* Suicide prevention	Establish suicide gatekeeper squad			*	*	
	Manage and visit patients with mental illness		*	*	*	*
	Visit and follow-up on suicide cases			*	*	*
	Community training courses on suicide prevention			*	*	
	Training course for prospective gatekeeper squad members and volunteers			*	*	
	Employment services by Mental Rehabilitation Association			*	*	

3.3 Indicator 3. Programs that target high-risk groups and environments, and programs that promote safety for vulnerable groups

3.3.1 Injury prevention and safety promotion programs targeting all age groups and disadvantaged minorities:

0-6 years old

* Road Safety

By the end of 2007 in Dongshan, there were 2,832 children under the age of six (accounting for 5.5% of the population), and 1,563 children that are currently enrolled in daycare centers and kindergartens. Most parents take kids to kindergarten by motorcycle. The Road Safety Working Group members checked in 12 kindergartens and on 12 spots in the community to know helmet wearing rate, and they found it was 26.5% (kindergarten), and 17% (spot in community) .

Collaborating with kindergartens, we took some education actions to parents. The wearing rate raised to nearly 40% in 2008.

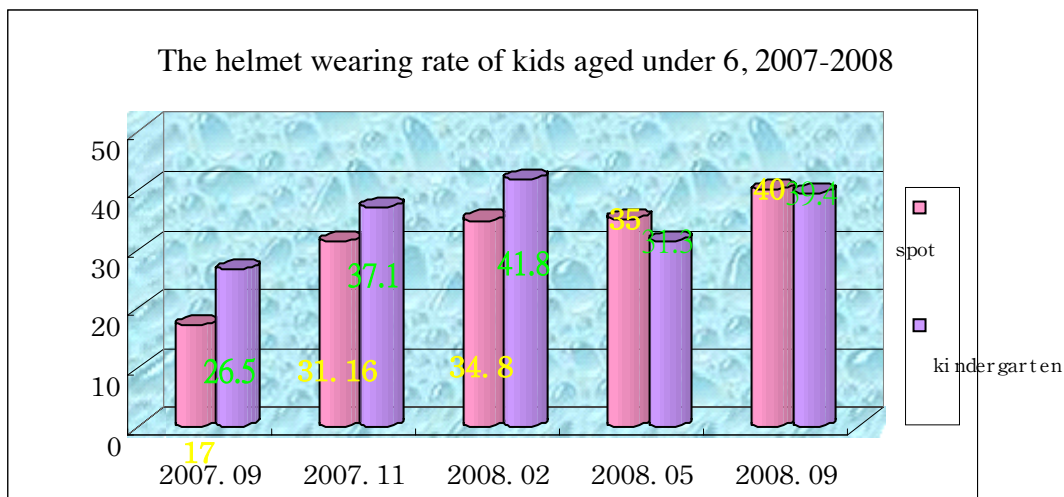


Fig. 9 Kids did not wear helmet in 2007.



Fig. 10 Teachers of kindergarten submit safety knowledge to parents.



Fig. 11 Most parents remember to wear helmet for kids when go to school.

* Home safety and collision prevention program

In most homes, it is the grandparents that are caring for the children during the day. However, due to the children's everlasting vigor, the elderly often lack both the energy and the ability to

effectively care for them. Consequently, any negligence in the misplacement of household objects may result in injuries to children. To address this problem, the home safety group has produced a set of safety guidelines and reminders to elevate awareness of the risks in the home environment.

The 2006 survey found that the majority of injuries involving children took place in home settings. Hence it is the primary purpose of the home safety group to eliminate risk factors, ensure children’s home safety and bring up residents’ awareness towards home safety.

The home safety group considers the caretakers of children as the primary subjects of its programs. By providing health care education, safety guidelines and reminders we are hoping to minimize the injury occurrences among children. Since its inception, we have made annual visit to every household, and have assisted in clearing the household risk factors. Results of this initiative are as shown on chart 5.

Chart 5. Results of the home safety and collision prevention program

List of unqualified areas	1. No protective covers on electric sockets	2. No protective padding on table corners
Unqualified rate before safety programs was initiated	78.4%	52.8%
Unqualified rate after safety program was initiated	26.4%	48%

7-14 years old

Children’s safety promotion program will take a bifurcated approach, focusing on the safety of students when at school, and traveling to and from school.

* At schools:

In order to fully understand the cause of on-campus injury incidents, schools at all levels have established injury registration mechanisms. To promote a safe bicycle riding behavior among student traveling to and from schools, we have pushed for the bicycle helmet programs.

* On the way to and from school:

In the current industrial society, the prevalence of households with both parents at work have rendered the situation, where the children are getting to school by walking or riding bicycles on their own. To deal with circumstance, we have mapped out the “Student Safe Passage Way”, where in cases of emergency, stores and houses that are situated en route to the students’ school or home, they will provide students with a safe shelter and assist them in contacting their parents.

15-24 years olds

With this age group, our goal is to assist teenagers deal with the physical, psychological and behavioral distresses of adolescence; we have designed programs to promote gender education, and to

provide appropriate health education and guidance to equip teenagers with sufficient knowledge and skills for acceptance and approval of oneself. In addition, the program also attempts to instill teenagers with the correct understanding of road and traffic safety, to prevent injuries resulting from traffic violations. During summer break, we have also conducted “Youth Projects” by arranging basketball and dance competitions to provide teenagers with a suitable outlet for stress relief. In addition, we have partnered with the police department to inspect internet cafes and arcade to persuade teenagers to return home, and not to linger around those locations.

For high school dropouts and students from single parent families, we have arranged counseling sessions to encourage them to participate in active recreations, and performing arts. These positive reinforcement techniques could help students develop a strong sense of self-esteem.



Fig. 12 Counseling for teenagers



Fig. 13 Gender education



Fig. 14 Youth project—dance competition

25-64 years olds

There are a total of 531,213 hectares of farmland in Dongshan Township, most of which are used to produce tea and pomelo. The annual fruit production amounts to 5,490 tons, while using up to ten tons of pesticides. This amount of pesticides used every year is a source of concern, hence we have developed a safety procedure to demonstrate to farmers on how pesticides should be purchased, applied, and stored, and how used containers should be disposed. We have also developed programs to promote the farmers’ work place safety. The program focuses on establishing safety precautions when operating machines; establishing a traceability system of agricultural products; promoting safe farming hours; promoting falling and injury prevention at the workplace; and devising safety promotion plans for farming related transportation activities.

65 years old and above

* Fall prevention of the elderly

According to statistics, injury from falling is the seventh most frequent cause of death among seniors. Due to the deterioration of bodily functions, the elderly are prone to falling, which may cause temporary or permanent disabilities. In light of this circumstance, the reference group has organized fall prevention courses to assist the elderly in developing self-preservation abilities. The course emphasizes on enhancing the strength, grip, sense of equilibrium, and body functions of standing up

from a seated position, to prevent falling incidents.

* The bathroom handrail installation project for elderly living alone and low-income households

Seniors 65 and up comprises 12.5% of the population in Dongshan Township, and a great portion of them live alone. The 2006 home safety survey of 250 households within the township revealed that all five of the bathroom falling incidents happened to seniors living alone. The objective of the handrail installation project is to reduce the number of bathroom falling incidents of the elderly, and to elevate home safety awareness among residents.

In collaboration with community volunteers, the home safety group has conducted a survey to investigate the problems that seniors are confronted with when using bathrooms. The reference group then uses this information for the acquisition of social resources. The program gained supported from Yong Li Industrial Co., who agreed to provide seniors living alone and low-income families with free bathroom handrails. The number of installations in the program has increased by 10% annual, and is current extending to the whole township. In 2007, this program has benefited all seniors living alone in Yilan County, and as expected it has brought down bathroom falling incidents among the elderly. (As shown on figure 6) Additionally, Mr. Qiu Zhengji of Yilan County has also donated bathroom handrails to seniors living alone. His donation of 285 handrails to Dongshan Township, and 1,005 for the whole County has earned him the 7th Volunteer Award, Dept. of Health, Executive Yuan.



Fig. 15 No handrail in bathroom



Fig. 16 After improvement, a suitable handrail in bathroom



Fig. 17 Install handrail for seniors living alone

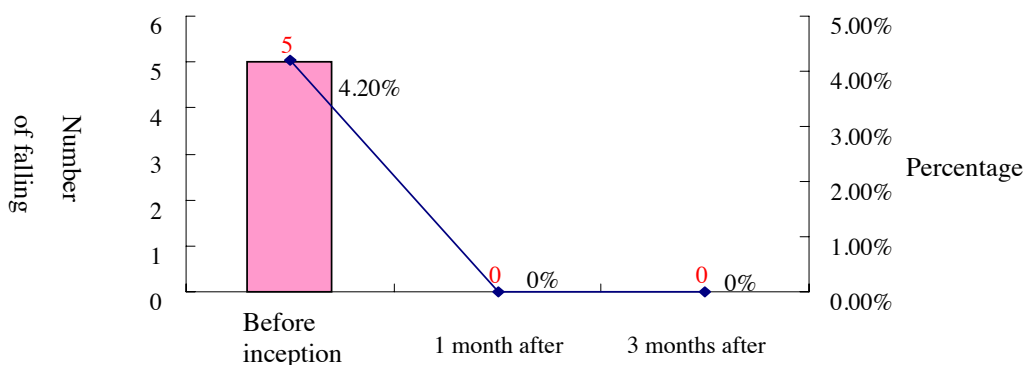


Fig. 18 Outcome of handrail installation in Dongshan (during June to September, 2007)

* Fire and collision prevention

As the seniors gets older, the memories and reflexes deteriorate. The home safety group has formulated the “safe tip initiative” to deal with this phenomenon, where explicit pictorial illustrations are posted around the home, to remind the elderly to: turn of the gas stove; open the windows for better ventilation; and to use the appropriate aiding tools. Additionally, we’ve also created the “activity without falling” project, where night lamps and reflective stickers are placed in walk way and at corners of the home of the elderly.



Fig. 19 Anti-slip in bathroom



Fig. 20 Install a night-light



Fig. 21 Reminder to cut-off gas

Foreign spouses

Currently, the number of foreign spouse within the township grows by 6% annually, and due to the cultural and customary discrepancies, their ability to adapt to the lives in the community is of grave concern. These new immigrants are the mainstays of their families, and in order to provide them with the conveniences of mobility (the ability to ride scooters), the home safety group has requested foreign nuns to translate the traffic regulations, and to teach it to the foreign spouses to help them acquire scooter licenses. Language teachers have also been asked to teach mandarin to the foreign spouses. By much practices, they are slowly able to communicate with their family members and other residents within the community. Finally, nurses at health clinics have been conducting courses on caring for infants and the elderly, so that foreign spouses may be caretakers in their families.



Fig. 22 Foreign spouses learn traffic regulations



Fig. 23 Foreign spouses take traffic exam



Fig. 24 Foreign spouses take traffic exam

Suicide prevention

In 2006, suicide was ranked eighth on the of the top ten cause of death in Yilan County, which

was higher than its ranking of ninth on the national level. In order to effectively implement the suicide prevention program, we have established a gatekeeper squad to ask questions, respond to and refer the individuals with suicide tendencies to seek appropriate help. The squad is connected to communities; hospitals; police and fire departments; civil, educational, social affairs, and labor institutions. Through the established reporting mechanism, we will be able to effectively manage patients with mental diseases, and to care for the needs of depressed and consequently reduce the suicide rate within the community.

3.3.2 Injury prevention and safety promotion programs targeting all environments and disadvantaged minorities:

According to Dongshan injury surveillance data, the safety issues concerned about environments include: home, farming, traffic, school, and leisure.

Home safety program

The home safety surveys between 2004-2006 found that a multitude of injuries may occur in the home setting, including injuries from falling, suffocation, cuts, punctures, collisions, poisonings, and burns. Children and the elderly are the most vulnerable victims of injuries. The home safety group has prioritized its programs basing on the results of the surveys, and proposes injury prevention strategies targeted at children and the elderly. At the same time, the group will also partner with the community development committee, the evergreen society, the neighborhood watch, volunteers, mothering classes, schools, and corporations, to provide free bathroom handrail installations for seniors living alone and low-income families. The home safety group has also conducted safety home environment evaluations; training programs for personnel; and educational programs to raise the consciousness of those caring and those being cared for. All in all, these programs have enhanced the residents' ability for self-preservation and in helping others.

Farming safety program

Agriculture is the primary source of income for residents of Dongshan Township, and the farming safety group will assist farmers with establishing farming related precautionary procedures which targets on improving hazardous environments, correct pesticide usage, and resolving problems with husbandry. Together, we will assist farmers develop a safer work environment.



Fig. 25 Safe usage for farming

Fig. 26 Protective suit for farming

Fig. 27 Establish traceability

Traffic safety program

Dongshan Township has been facing problems with land expropriation since 2002, this has substantially affected the traffic flow. In addition, due to its poor designs, three accidents resulting in hospitalization have taken place in the same road section. In order to raise the level of awareness of the safety conditions of the roads, the road safety group has conducted a series of transportation safety education and training courses. In addition, we have also engaged the appropriate authorities to repair the hazardous roads and facilities.



Fig. 28 Improvement for high-risk road, before(left) and after(right)



Fig. 29 Improvement for high-risk road, before(left) and after(right)



Fig. 30 Installation of reflection mirrors, before(left) and after(right)

School safety program

A large number of elementary and junior high school students use bicycles as their primary mode of transportation, and in order to ensure the safety of these students the school safety group has

conducted safe cycling programs on campuses. The programs will teach students about traffic regulations and the correct equipments to put on when cycling. Students will then be required to take written and road tests to obtain a bicycle license before they are permitted to ride on the roads. Volunteers will also monitor the road within the township to ensure that all students wear helmets, and to remind them what to watch out for when riding. Schools have also incorporated water safety as a part of their safety education course.



Fig. 31 Biking skill course for students



Fig. 32 Biking with helmet



Fig. 33 Water safety training course for students

Recreation safety program

Recreational activities have been rapidly burgeoning in recent years, the nature beauty of Dongshan Township have attracted numerous tourist to visit. The safety condition of the recreation trails and waters is the focus of the recreation safety group, hence we have worked on installing anti-slippery measures, guardrails, and other lifesaving devices.

Furthermore, the tourism upsurge in the past few years has spurred the rapid growth of the bed and breakfast business. There are currently over eighty bed and breakfast establishments, and to ensure that owners and patrons can both enjoy a safe environment, fire safety is of the utmost importance when developing the tourism and recreation industry.

The recreation safety promotion group also cooperates with the Forestry Bureau of the Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, to promote safety for tourists. We inspect paths or riversides in regular time, improve risk spots as soon as possible, and set safety devices.



Fig. 34 To set kinds of warning sign and lifesaving devices



Fig. 35 To inspect environments



Fig. 36 To improve protective facility



Fig. 37 To spread wooden materials for anti-slip

3.4 Indicator 4. Program that documents the frequency and causes of injuries

Injury surveillance is the foremost part of a safe community program. There are currently no hospitals in Dongshan Township. Hence we rely on the township clinic to provide us with cause of death data, the police department for traffic accident record, the fire department for ambulance journey record, schools and community injury registration stations for injury records. (See chart 6)

Chart 6. Sources of injury data of Dongshan Township

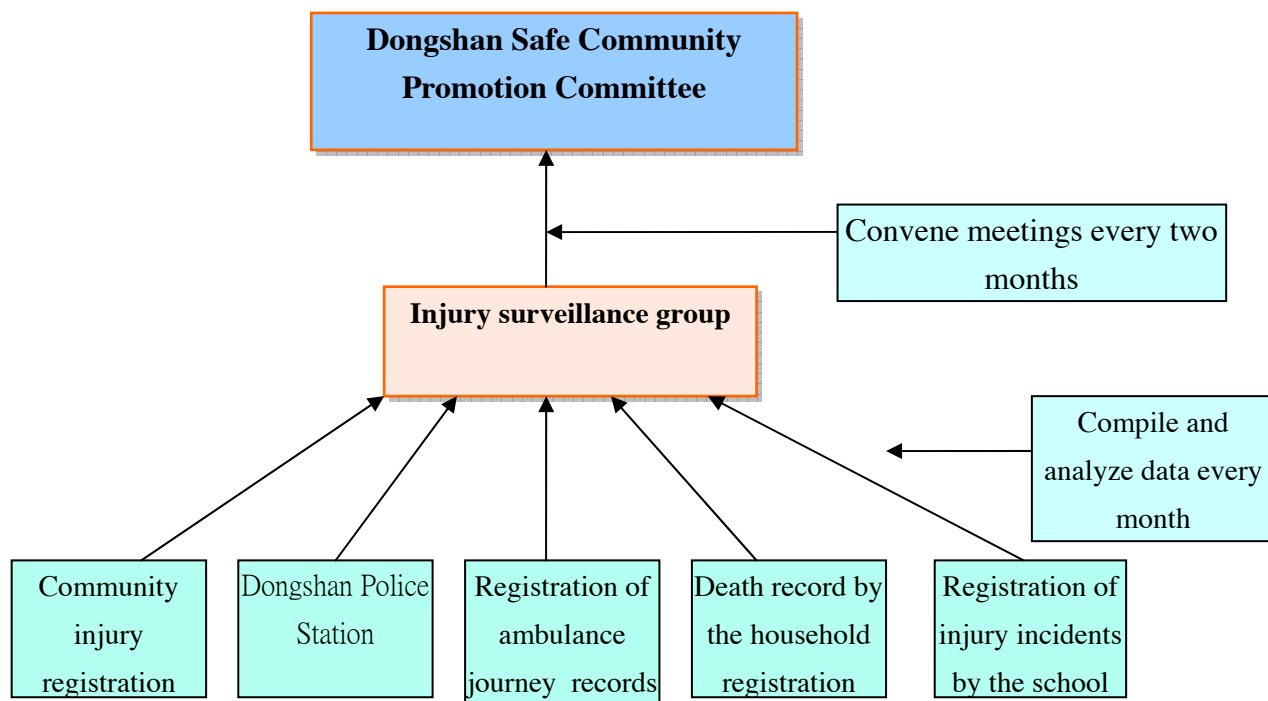
Data sources	Time of registration	Place of registration	Registrar
Community injury registration stations	No designated timeframe	Office of heads of villages and neighborhoods	Heads of neighborhood, health care volunteers, public health nurses
Dongshan Police Station	Upon receiving emergency calls	Police station	Police officers on duty
Ambulance journey records	At the time when ambulance is deployed	The fire department	Firemen on duty
Injury record at school health centers	When student are injured	School health center	School nurses
Death records at the household registration office	Upon notification of death cases	Township household registration office	Nurses at Dongshan Township health clinic

In order to establish a well functioning injury surveillance mechanism, the reference group has worked with the previous mentioned organizations to form the “Dongshan Township Injury Surveillance Network”. The surveillance group will periodically compile injury statistics; and with the assistance of the township clinic, the injury surveillance group will conduct data analysis and report findings to the reference group, where it will then be used a basis for revision of future programs (as shown in fig.38). The surveillance group will also emit injury statistics to the registration stations, and post notices to inform community residents about the types of injuries that are taking place within the community; in doing so, we can involve residents in our injury prevention programs, and keep the same injuries from reoccurring.

Currently, injury data are acquired from the fire department’s ambulance journey records, and cause of death data from the municipal administrative offices. These two groups have for long been providing firsthand information of the scene of the injury. However, because the data provided by the fire department only documented the types of injuries incurred, we were not able to determine its cause; while the cause of death data provided by the municipal office were documented according to the victims’ permanent place of residence, we were not able to obtain a accurate figure of injury and death that actually occurred in Dongshan Township. Furthermore, many of the injuries were treat at medical facilities outside of the township or with folk medicine, rendering injury incidents undocumented. In order to perfect the injury data collection system, aside from the aforementioned

methods, we will also exploit local connections to garner additional data.

Fig. 38 The Dongshan Township injury surveillance network



Due to the vastness its lands and the dispersive nature of the communities, we are currently encouraging each registration station to record the injury incident within their own community, to help us gain better picture of the status of injury occurrences. Beginning October 2005, the heads of each neighborhood have set up registration stations, while medical staffs, health care volunteers and the heads of neighborhood will undertake the task of registration. To minimize errors in registering injuries and refine the injury registration system, we have not only sought assistance from experts and but we have also held educational trainings. With the help of all involved, the registration system has come to a matured stage, and is now providing an abundance of aid to all programs in progress.

According to the community injury data, there have been 290 injury incidents recorded between January 2007 and December 2008.

- 1) Injury from cutting is the most frequent type injury at 83 cases (accounting for 28.6% of all injuries), followed by 78 cases of falling incidents (accounting for 26.9% of all injuries). (As shown in chart 7)
- 2) The most frequent injury location is at homes, 103 (35.5%) of the injury cases took place in home settings, while roads rank second with 70 (24.1%) cases. (As shown in chart 8)
- 3) Chart 9 shows that more than half (55.2%) of the injured victims do not seek medical attention, and only 123 (42.4%) of the cases are treated at hospitals.

Chart 7. Various injuries recorded in Dongshan Township from January 2007 to December 2008

Type of Injury	Traffic	Falling	Struck by objects	Injury by Cutting	Caught in between objects	Animal bites	Burn	Sport	Others	Total
2007.01~2007.12	12	18	8	22	2	3	1	1	3	70
2008.1~2008.12	43	60	23	61	3	8	15	7	0	220
Total	55	78	31	83	5	11	16	8	3	290

Chart 8. Occurrence places of injury from January 2007 to December 2008

Place of occurrence	Roads and streets	Home environment					School	Work place	Sports field	Other	Total
		living room	kitchen	bathroom	bedroom	staircase					
2007.1~2007.12	19	6	9	2	3	0	0	8	0	23	70
2008.1~2008.12	51	24	31	12	10	6	11	30	16	29	220
Total	70	30	40	14	13	6	11	38	16	52	290

Chart 9. Treatment of injury cases from January 2007 to December 2008

Treatment method	Did not seek medical help	Clinic of Chinese medicine	Martial Arts clinic	Outpatient service at clinics	Emergency room	Total
2007.1~2007.12	35	2	0	20	13	70
2008.1~2008.12	125	4	1	52	38	220
Total	160	6	1	72	51	290

According to the 2008 injury data, out of the 220 injury incidents, 80 of the victims are 65 years and older, while 22 are 6 years old or younger.

➤ Injury victims 65 years old and up

1. Place of injuries: 35 incidents were at homes, 18 on roads, 10 at workplaces, 3 at recreation sites, 3 at stores, and 11 at other places.
2. Types of Injuries: 29 injuries caused by cutting, 26 by falling, 16 by traffic accidents, 6 by animal bites, 2 struck by objects, and 1 by burn.
3. Treatment: 45 cases were treated at hospitals and 35 cases were unattended to.

➤ Injury victims 6 years old and under

1. Place of injuries: 12 incidents were at homes, 6 at sports and recreation sites, 2 on roads, and 2 at other places.
2. Types of Injuries: 15 injuries caused by falling, 3 by colliding with other objects, 2 by cutting,

and 2 by getting caught between objects.

3. Treatment: 5 cases were treated at hospitals and 17 cases were unattended to.

3.5 Indicator 5. Evaluation measures to assess their programs, processes and the effects of change

*** Internal Evaluation**

In order to ensure that all the programs are effectively implemented, while closely adhering to the six International SC indicators, internal evaluations are to be conducted on a regular basis:

1) Meetings:

Reference group meetings:

The reference group holds a meeting to undergo evaluations of the progress of the SC programs, which includes: implementing devised policies; communicating with partnering organizations on safety issues; integrate human and material resources; review task force groups' progress reports; and provide task groups with the necessary assistance.

Task force groups meetings:

A meeting is held every two months or whenever necessary, to allow group members evaluate, basing on the injury surveillance data, the effectiveness of programs executed.

2) Inter-organizational collaboration:

The Dongshan safe community promotion center has effectively integrated organizations from different sectors. The partners include heads of public institutions, resident representatives, health care volunteers, and representative of various private sectors. By forging an intersectoral organization we were able to: arrange for the division of labor; establish different task force groups; integrated resources; actively communicated with directing organizations; and increase the efficiency in carrying out the SC programs.

3) Personnel cultivation:

In the three years since the inception of the SC program, all participating members have displayed progressed in safety awareness and realized the importance of cultivating personnel to continue to operate the safe community programs. Through education courses and seminars, we will be able to cultivate prospective personnel to carry the torch in serving their community.

*** External evaluations**

1. On site guidance provided by the Taiwanese Community Safety Promotion Center (TCSPC).
2. On site guidance provided by the Taiwanese Community Safety Promotion Center--Eastern Regional Support Center (TCSPC-ERSC).
3. Bureau of Health Promotion: Inspector and evaluation the implementation

3.6 Indicator 6. Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks

July 2006: Mr. Yousif Rahim from the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion visited Dongchen Community (later enlarged as Dongshan) to provide on-site

September 2006: Attending the 2006 Taiwan safe community development conference, experts from Sweden, Korea, Thailand and New Zealand.

December 2006: Observance tour of Dungshr Safe Community- the expedition was led by the deputy chief of the Yilan County Health Department along with members of the reference group.

April 2007: 2007 Training Course of Safe Community Promotion Program in Taiwan- experience exchange session on resource integration at Dongshan Community.

November 2007: Mr. Henk Harberts and Dr. Zhong-Tang Zhao visited Dongshan Township to provide guidance for the promotion programs

November 2007: Attending the Fourth Asian Safe Community Seminar in Thailand- attendance by the executive secretary of Dongshan Community

September 2008: Site visit by Dr. Joon Pil Cho and Dr. Yoko Shiraishi



Fig. 39 Mr. Yousif Rahim visited Dongchen



Fig. 40 Attending the 2006 Taiwan Safe Community Development Conference



Fig. 41 Visit Dungshr Safe Community



Fig. 42 Mr. Henk Harberts visited Dongshan



Fig. 43 Dr. Joon Pil Cho site-visited Dongshan

IV. Future developments

Safety is the fundamental objective of sustainable development of safe communities. The pursuit of safety does not end with establishment of safe communities. Instead, it is a continuous and unceasing movement. The development of safe communities should be a sustainable, and experience-sharing safety promotion campaign. By connecting with various organizations, the Dongshan Township SC promotion committee will extend injury prevention to all corners of the society, while aspiring to become a model safe community of Yilan County and an example for SC experience exchange. Furthermore, by lobbying for financial assistance from governments; and developing academic and technical partnership with other safety promotion organizations, we were able to fulfill the vision of establishing an Yilan County-wide SC network. By establishing a county-wide network, we will be able to assist other communities in their programs, further the ideals and essence of safety promotion, and share our experience with domestic and international safe communities.

Our Commitments

Dongshan Community will adhere to the six indicators of the International SC Network. By actively surveying injury occurrences within the community and focusing on the needs of high-risk groups, we will conduct our safe community programs in an effective and incorporative manner. We will also continue to be involved in domestic and international safe community activities, connecting with other members of the International SC Network, and perpetuate the pursuit for a safer community.