

Presentation of the Safe Community Programmes



Name of the Community: **Vorarlberg**

Country: **Austria**

Number of inhabitants in the community: **372.000**

Safe Community Programme started year: 1993

International Safe Communities Network Membership: Designation year: 1998

Name of the Certifying Centre: WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion Karolinska Institut Department of Public Health Sciences Division of Social Medicine

Info address on www for the Programme: <http://www.sicheresvorarlberg.at>

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The programme covers the following safety promotion activities:



Children 0-14 years (examples of activities):

Home:

- Lectures like “Is everything safe for children?” at the maternity ward of the hospital.
- Packets of safety products from the community.
- Giant kitchen.

Traffic:

- Bicycle helmets campaign.
- Bike skills trainings.
- Information events on child car seats.
- Participation in the work group traffic safety.

School:

- Clown Dido & His Clever Friend SIGE – a musical visit to the kindergarten.
- The Egg-Helmet Test – demonstration is meant to show children how helmets protects persons wearing them.
- Inline skating courses.
- Mountain Guides on Winter Sports Weeks.
- Blind spot - fatal spot - events.
- Seeing and being seen - events.

Sports:

- Fairness-scoring (soccer).
- Family Hiking courses.

Leisure:

- Playground seminar.
- Accident-prevention clown.

Evidence-based strategies (For info see guidelines):

Youth 15-24 years (examples of activities):

Home:

- Ear protection (music).
- Giant kitchen – as an adult, seeing the world through the eyes of a small child.

Traffic:

- Bicycle helmets campaign.
- Participation in the work group traffic safety.
- Seeing and being seen.

Occupational:

- Apprentice training “Conduct on and beyond prepared skiing slopes”.

School:

- Mountain Guides on Winter Sports Weeks.
- Inline skating courses.
- Mountainbike courses.

Sports:

- Football fairness awards (soccer).
- Climbing courses.
- Skiing safety days.

Leisure:

- Freeride Safety Camps.
- Fireworks – doing right.

Evidence-based strategies (For info see guidelines):

Adults 25-64 years (examples of activities):

Home:

- Barbeques – topic of fire protection and prevention.
- Giant kitchen – as an adult, seeing the world through the eyes of a small child.
- Gardening (usage of ladders or chemicals...).

Traffic:

- Bicycle helmets campaign.
- Participation in the work group traffic safety.

Occupational:

- Bicycle - a focus day.
- Seeing and being seen - a focus day.
- Skiing safety day.

Sports:

- Mountainbike courses.
- Football fairness awards (soccer).
- Hiking courses.
- Climbing courses.
- Off the Beaten Slope – courses.
- Winter sports helmets campaign.
- Work groups on different topics.

Leisure:

- Forestry courses for hobby forester with extra courses just for Women's.
- Fireworks – doing it right.

Evidence-based strategies (For info see guidelines):

Elderly 65+ years (examples of activities):

Home:

- Lectures on senior citizens and everyday living.
- Trainings “Staying in balance”.

Traffic:

- Bicycle helmets campaign.
- Participation in the work group traffic safety.

- Seeing and being seen.
- Electric bicycle courses

Sports:

- Bicycle courses.
- Hiking courses

Leisure:

- Fruit Growers and Gardening Society (usage of ladders or chemicals...).

Evidence-based strategies (For info see guidelines):

Other

Natural Disaster: the consequences (human injuries) related to Natural Disaster: Civil protection and disaster prevention are organised through provincial offices and provincial institutions (for example, the Provincial Warning and Alarm Centre, the Avalanche Warning Services, the Catastrophe Centre).

Violence prevention (intentional injuries): In Vorarlberg the prevention of violence is of primary interest not only at the Safe Communities Initiative, but is also a significant part of prevention work at other institutions. Cooperative efforts between the Safe Communities Initiative and other health institutions is taken for granted when the need presents itself. Some of these organisations in Vorarlberg: Province of Vorarlberg: [www](#) / Institute for Social Services: [www](#) / Task Force for Social Medicine: [www](#).

Suicide prevention (self-inflicted injuries): Suicide prevention is not specifically an area emphasis of the Safe Communities Initiative in Vorarlberg, but rather a significant part of the preventative work of other institutions. Of course, there are cooperative efforts between the Safe Communities Initiative and other health institutions if such efforts prove necessary. Some of these organisations in Vorarlberg: Province of Vorarlberg: Task Force for Social Medicine: [www](#).

Programs aiming at "High risk-groups":

- "Growing up safely" a child safety lecture offered for immigrant workers
- "Barrier-free Bregenz"

Surveillance of injuries: Where?

Numbers per year, Population base, Started year:

Our data source is the IDB (Injury Database) survey in Austria and Vorarlberg, compiled by the Austrian Traffic Safety Board. Since 1992 the Austrian Traffic Safety Board, active throughout Austria, has been carrying out interviews in hospitals concerning the causes and effects of accidents. These data are collected for the IDB and analysed, then presented to the Safe Communities Initiative. In addition to the standard data surveys done for the IDB, in future special programmes will be carried out in which certain aspects of the accident conditions can be analysed more precisely by expanding the IDB questionnaire, or by including further hospitals. In the coming years such specialised surveys will be implemented concerning the topics "Injured children in Vorarlberg" and "Skiing and snowboarding in Vorarlberg".

Publications:

Scientific:

- "Safe Communities" in Vorarlberg - a Model for Austria? (Bob Goethals and Rupert Kisser, 2000)
- What does "Safe Communities" offer? Evaluation Vorarlberg, 2000. (Gerald Furian and Franz Rein, 2001)
- 10 years "Safe Communities". Evaluation Vorarlberg, 2005. (Gerald Furian and Franz Rein, 2005)

Produced information material:

- Annual reports
- Brochures like child safety, reflector products, inline skating, safety with horses, safe barbecuing, fall prevention
- Videos like seeing and being seen, blind spot
- Other materials like a CD with songs for children, a memory game...

Staff



Leader Franz Rein

Professions: part-time or full-time: 3 full-time, 1 part-time

Permanent: all

Temporary:

Organization:

Specific cross-sectoral leadership group for safety promotion:

General public health/health promotion group:

The political decision to pursue a sustainable policy of injury prevention was made by founding the independently funded Safe Communities. The Safe Communities Initiative is situated politically in the Department of Health of the Province of Vorarlberg and has been organised since 1997 as an independent foundation, with its headquarters located in the town of Dornbirn (one of 96 Vorarlberg townships). Its primary political goal for the entire region is to reduce the numbers of accidents, thereby reducing or preventing human suffering and the resulting costs. The Foundation partners defined and established this goal within the conceptual framework of Safe Communities, under the aegis of the Province of Vorarlberg. The Foundation's declaration, which was approved for an indefinite period of time, makes it possible to continuously implement a large number of activities dealing with the most varied topics related to accident prevention within the framework of sustainable health promotion. In addition to implementing standardised programmes on accident prevention and health promotion, more and more topics can be focused on for periods of several years.

International commitments:

Organised Study visits for the following visiting communities: Land Brandenburg

Participation in Safe Community conferences: Where and when?

Rotterdam 1998, Vienna 1999, Vienna 2004, Budapest 2011

Hosting Safe Community Conferences: When? no

Hosting "Traveling Seminars": yes

Other, what? Participation in different networks. For example:

- Participation at the European Health Convention in Vienna
- Sharing and exchange of know-how and experiences with Dr. Gabriele Elsässer (Department of Health, Brandenburg) in Berlin
- Participation at the Sports Congress, sharing ideas, know-how and experiences with the work group "Vorarlberg bewegt" in Karlsruhe
- Participation at the international symposium Prevention of Falls in Salzburg
- Participation at the National Conference of Competence in Health Promotion and in Accident Prevention in Bregenz
- Participation at the Geriatrics Congress in St. Gallen

- Participation at the symposium "25 Years of Children's Safety in Austria" in the pediatric clinic, Graz
- Participation at the Sports Congress in Magglingen
- Sharing ideas, know-how and experiences – with Styria Vitalis and "Große schützen Kleine (Big Ones Protect Little Ones)" in Graz/Deutschlandsberg
- Exchange of ideas, know-how and experiences with the board members of the Safe Tyrol Organisation, in Vorarlberg
- Exchange of ideas, know-how and experiences with the Provincial Health Department of Berlin/Brandenburg, Germany within the framework of the WHO certification as a Safe Region
- Project abroad - "Safe Communities" of the SUVA team-member Mark Langenegger
- Participation at the 3rd European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion in Budapest, Hungary (B-speaker in the session "Hospitals for a safer community")
- Participation at the bfu-symposium "Suisse Public" in Bern as speaker on the topic "From delegating risks to individual responsibility"

Contact

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