



Australian Government
Australian Institute of Criminology

AUSTRALIAN CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION AWARDS



Winning projects 2009

To be announced by the Hon. Brendan O'Connor,
Minister for Home Affairs on Thursday 29 October 2009

Selection board

Dr Adam Tomison (Chair)	Australian Government
Mr Paul Friedman	Queensland
Ms Reilley McGrath	Australian Capital Territory
Councillor Pat Morris	Western Australia
Commander Mick Plotecki	New South Wales
Acting Inspector Joanne Howard	South Australia
Commander Ashley Dickinson	Victoria
Ms Pippa Rudd	Northern Territory
Ms Sandra Lovell	Tasmania

ACVPA national winners

Eight projects received national awards

The Weld to Life Program (Western Australia)

Award: \$15,000 and National Certificate

The *Weld to Life Program* is an intervention strategy designed by Senior Constable Tim Ellis of Rockingham Police and Citizens Youth Club for young people who have committed an offence or are at risk of offending. The program aims to reduce offending behaviour among youth residing in the Rockingham/Kwinana area through an intensive work-ready training program.

The program teaches valuable skills through hands-on activity, mentoring and structured education, providing an opportunity to experience a career in the metals trade. It is an accredited training program and participants achieve two TAFE certificates—Cert 1 Metals and Engineering and Cert 1 Wider Opportunities for Work (WOW), as well as a St Johns Ambulance Certificate in Senior First Aid.

Participants are repeat offenders who have been referred to the program by their schools, parents, the Department for Child Protection, Juvenile Justice Team or the courts.

Contact: Senior Constable Tim Ellis, Manager, Rockingham Police and Community Youth Centre

Phone: 08 9592 1232

Email: rockpcyc@bigpond.net.au

It all Starts at Home (Victoria)

Award: \$15,000 and National Certificate

The *It All Starts At Home* project was funded through the Commonwealth Office for Women and Victorian Department of Health and Safety and delivered in the southern metropolitan region of Victoria. The project's long term goal is to prevent adolescent violence in the home through awareness raising and capacity building. Project components include:

- group work with parents of abusive adolescents
- capacity building for parents and service providers
- comprehensive resource development
- targeted research.

Project outcomes include:

- a significant increase in community awareness
- parental skill development
- organisational capacity building

- building a substantial knowledge base around the issue.

Our research report informed the recommendations of the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children. Early intervention and prevention approaches influence long-term behaviour for adolescent males in breaking the cycle of inter-familial violence.

Contact: Ms Robbi Chaplin, CEO—Inner South Community Health Service

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Email: rchaplin@ischs.org.au

Time for Kids Placement Program (South Australia)

Award: \$10,000 and National Certificate

Time For Kids provides regular respite care for disadvantaged children in South Australia by placing them with volunteer carers on a part-time basis. To date, 4,500 children have been linked with families.

Outcomes:

- provide vulnerable children with positive childhood experiences, acceptance, respect, care, positive role models and a break from stressful home life
- trained supportive carers assist children throughout their childhood and beyond to prevent at-risk children from becoming involved in offending, homelessness or dropping out of the education system
- strengthen resources and skills of primary families and guardians
- ensure volunteers have the skills and resources to provide excellent quality care for the children matched with them
- in 49 years, no child has been involved in the SA juvenile justice system while in the care program.

Contact: Ms Joanne Wickes, Chief Executive Officer

Phone: 08 8362 6311

Email: joanne@timeforkids.com.au

Promoting Peace in Families (Victoria)

Award: \$10,000 and National Certificate

Promoting Peace in Families is an innovative partnership involving government, the public health sector and faith leaders that reflects a new frontier in family violence prevention, with excellent results.

Police intervention statistics in Casey are the highest in Victoria. As a result, the Attorney-General's National Community Crime Prevention Program supported a project that educated 128 senior ministry leaders to identify, respond and prevent family violence.

Key strategies were to raise awareness in, and increase skills of, leaders to intervene effectively with victims and perpetrators, to educate congregations and the broader community about unacceptable behaviours and healthy relationships and in doing so, create a sustainable best-practice model that could be replicated elsewhere.

In establishing a supportive environment, victims and perpetrators came forward in unprecedented numbers and a new service system developed.

Unanticipated outcomes include the depth of inter-faith and secular/non-secular partnerships, the extent of attitudinal shift and community commitment to continue beyond the project.

Contact: Ms May Hassan, Acting Manager Community Care & Health Promotion, City of Casey

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Under the Limit: Drink Driving Education and Rehabilitation Program (Queensland)

Award: \$10,000 and National Certificate

Under the Limit (UTL) is an 11 week drink driving prevention and rehabilitation program offered at the time of sentencing in association with a probation order through Queensland magistrates courts. The program aims to rehabilitate drink driving offenders and reduce alcohol-related crashes and trauma, as well as the offence of drink driving. UTL is delivered through TAFE, with facilitators from the community trained and supervised by the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety—Queensland. Program costs are met by offenders and probation/parole officers supervise attendance, worksheets and accompanying behavioural criteria.

Failure to meet attendance criteria is considered a breach of the order and the offender is returned to court. To date, over 8,500 offenders have been referred. If successfully completed, UTL has been shown to decrease (by 55%) subsequent drink driving behaviour in the subset of offenders considered more serious and who have multiple drink driving offences and high blood alcohol concentrations.

Contact: Ms Clare Murray, Marketing & Events Officer, Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety—Queensland (CARRS-Q)

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Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restriction Enforcement—Kartiya Future, Brighter Future (Western Australia)

Award: \$10,000 and National Certificate

In September 2007, the Marinwarantikura Fitzroy Women's Resource and Legal Centre initiated the Fitzroy Valley Alcohol and Drug Management Committee. The project is enforced by Western Australia Police who work closely with locals and are supported largely by the local elders.

Signage at Fitzroy Crossing advises visitors and locals that the area is a Restricted Alcohol Town, through this initiative and the management of alcohol consumption, there has been a remarkable reduction in domestic violence reported to local police as compared to the same period the previous year.

The project provides a different way of life for the Fitzroy Crossing townspeople who are now beginning to develop their community, because for the first time they can visualise a future for themselves and their families.

Contact: Mr Brett Dias, Public Affairs Officer, Fitzroy Crossing Alcohol and Drug Management Committee

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Strike Force Piccadilly (New South Wales)

Award: National Police Award and National Certificate

Commencing in August 2005, *Strike Force Piccadilly* is a NSW Police initiative that addresses the upsurge in ramraids on ATMs. The project involves a partnership between NSW Police and private sector stakeholders. The partnership operates through consultation, cooperative research, information sharing and commitment to implementing preventive measures.

The initiatives are:

- a police priority alarm system, ensuring rapid police response
- application of proven prevention measures including anti-ramming devices
- development of a risk assessment tool
- emailed intelligence reports on all attempted ramraids, with preventive implications.

As a result, ATM ramraids in New South Wales have decreased. Offences were reduced from 69 in the 12 months prior to intervention, to 19 in the final 12 months of the intervention period (to April 2008). For the same period, successful raids were reduced from 30 down to one, with no successful ATM ramraids occurring since September 2007.

Contact: Detective Inspector Murray Chapman, Commander of Strike Force Piccadilly

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Email: chap1mur@police.nsw.gov.au

Frankston Police, Mission Australia & Community Youth Assist Program (Victoria)

Award: National Police Award and National Certificate

The *Youth Assistance Program* (YAP) is an early intervention initiative that capitalises on synergies delivered through youth support agencies. It works collaboratively with local police in identifying and supporting young people who are at risk of offending, who display antisocial behaviour or who are in situations of social and/or economic disadvantage.

The action plans developed through the YAP are tailored to the individual needs of each participant and the resultant interventions draw upon the expertise of skilled and caring specialists. The success of the YAP is attributed to the principles of mutual responsibility, respect and the belief that positive leaders build strong and resilient communities.

Contact: Superintendent Dunne, Victoria Police, Region 5 Division 1, Frankston Police Service Area

Phone: 0419 577 259

Email: emmett.dunne@police.vic.gov.au

ACVPA state & territory winners

Five projects received \$5,000 and Certificates of Merit

'It's Time to Talk' about Domestic Violence (New South Wales)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

This project seeks to raise awareness about domestic violence in the local area by educating people about what constitutes domestic violence and what people can do if they are aware of incidents of domestic violence among friends, family, neighbours or work colleagues. Stages 1 and 2 of the project were funded by NSW Department of Community Services and included an information brochure, widespread exposure of the project logo, professional development workshops and information exhibitions. The current stage is being funded by Bankstown City Council.

The long-term goals of the project are to reduce instances of domestic violence in the target area. A measurable outcome is a reduction in statistics on reported instances of domestic violence. This figure initially spiked following Stage 1, due in part to an increased awareness that domestic violence is a crime and encouragement to report offences. Figures then dropped, hopefully because fewer people are offending due to the project.

Contact: Mr Tony Smith, Team Leader, Bankstown City Council

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Email: tony.smith@bankstown.nsw.gov.au

Working Together Against Violence (Victoria)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

Through a VicHealth funded initiative, *Working Together Against Violence*, Women's Health Victoria have partnered with corporate leader Linfox to develop the first Australian workplace-based project for the primary prevention of violence against women.

Phase 1 achieved its objectives through the delivery of a workplace training program—*Harm in the Home*. The training, piloted at a Linfox worksite in Altona, builds on the successful 'bystander approach', which engages men as leaders and role models in the community to stand up against violence.

Phase 2 engages all 48 Victorian Linfox worksites. Key components of the second phase include the continued delivery of *Harm in the Home* training, development and implementation of workplace policy and a resource kit.

Outcomes of the project include:

- phase 1 was successfully piloted, receiving positive feedback from all key stakeholders
- the project was incorporated into the company's occupational health and safety *Vision Zero* strategy
- prevention messages are being incorporated into workplace policy.

Contact: Ms Jill Exon, Project Officer, Women's Health Victoria

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NightWatch Project—Public Safety in Public Spaces (Queensland)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

Staff from ChaplainWatch's NightWatch patrols work proactively alongside law enforcement agencies, other emergency service providers and business owners to prevent alcohol-related (and other drug-related) antisocial behaviour, crime and violence within the major entertainment precinct of Brisbane City, including Fortitude Valley, the central business district and Caxton Street.

NightWatch's mobile patrols and rapid community response services work collaboratively with law enforcement, emergency services, other government agencies, local business, transport and other community stakeholders to provide a non-authoritarian, rapid response support service to people in crisis, at risk or in need. These services are provided Friday and Saturday nights 11 pm – 5 am. Volunteer chaplains patrol the area responding proactively on a needs basis or at the request of police, venue managers, security personnel and/or emergency services. Services include crisis intervention, conflict resolution, incident diffusion, crowd management, secondary victim support, frontline first aid, on-the-spot advice and referral to ongoing support services.

Contact: Ms Mary Graham, ChaplainWatch Inc

Phone: 0438 800 843

Email: provision4vision@aapt.net.au

Journey Towards Hope (JoThe) Dance Project (Western Australia)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

Journey Towards Hope (JoThe) dance projects are a series of projects that utilise the unique power of cross-cultural dance and performances to engage, educate and empower participants as well as convey messages of violence prevention.

JoThe was initiated by choreographer Dr Valli Batchelor and Dr Andrew Batchelor. Dr Valli Batchelor facilitates and coordinates programs in a collaborative venture with KULCHA Multicultural Arts Western Australia to jointly develop partnerships with stakeholders such as service providers, schools, community councils, cultural, religious and arts groups, and government departments.

The United Nations White Ribbon pledge 'not to commit, condone or remain silent on violence against women and children' became the theme woven into dance workshops and guided the development of performances at leading dance festivals.

The goal is to use dance to create an inclusive culture, where participants are empowered—leading to a change in values and attitudes regarding violence in society. Projects traversed social, ethnic and economic boundaries. They generated new partnerships with stakeholders which impacted thousands of people, including women and children at risk of different forms of violence. The program won the 2008 Western Australian Award for Multicultural Community Services.

Contact: Dr Valli Batchelor

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Lucky Project (Tasmania)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

Lucky operated from 2006 to June 2009 on the northwest coast of Tasmania, employing a community-based arts intervention approach to crime prevention through engaging targeted groups in task-focused workshops, arts and cultural activities. *Lucky* focused on linking three otherwise disparate groups in the community—at-risk young men, teenage mothers and the elderly.

The project's major funding partners were the Australian Government Attorney-General's Community Crime Prevention Programme, DOTARS Regional Partnerships Programme, FaHCSIA Mental Health Community Based Programme and Australia Council's Tasmanian Regional Engagement Strategy.

Long term goals include:

- engage LGA's using alternative strategies for crime prevention
- divert participants from crime and violence
- facilitate intergenerational involvement to dispel fear and build social inclusion.

Tangible outcomes include:

- engagement of eight LGA's
- consistent involvement of participants
- significant numbers of participants remaining in or returning to education or gaining employment.

Several unanticipated legacy projects were created which are currently ongoing.

Contact: Mr Bob Targett, CEO Big hART Inc

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Six projects received \$3,000 and Certificates of Merit

Domestic Violence PASS (Pro-active Support Service) (New South Wales)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

The primary function of the *Domestic Violence Pro-active Support Service* (DVPASS) is to provide support and services to victims of domestic violence in the period

immediately following police intervention. Police attending domestic violence incidents ask victims to sign a 'yellow card'. On this card, victims indicate whether they want to be contacted by a support agency. SSFS then attempts to contact those who gave consent within 72 hours of the initial police contact.

The project was partially funded by a grant given to Sutherland Shire Council by the Crime Prevention Division of the NSW Attorney General's Department.

The long-term goals of the project are to expand the service into the Hurstville/St George Area.

Some tangible outcomes include the identification of gaps in services. The following programs been established as a result:

- the *Safety First* program—provides financial assistance such as locksmiths and removalists for women needing to escape family violence situations
- Challenges of Parenting Adult Children (COPAC)—is a monthly support group with guest speakers for parents who care for violent adult children suffering from mental illness, drug and/or alcohol abuse.

Contact: Ms Diane Manns, Project Officer, Sutherland Shire Family Services (SSFS)

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Email: dvpas@ssfs.org.au

A Journey of Understanding—the Sudanese Community (Victoria)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

A Journey of Understanding brought together Sudanese residents living in Wyndham, local service providers and government agencies to tackle the widespread disengagement of the Wyndham Sudanese community.

In the months leading up to the formation of the Wyndham Humanitarian Network Sudanese sub-committee, many complaints were received by the Wyndham City Council Legislative Services Department and Werribee Police Station pertaining to the behaviour of young Sudanese people in Wyndham Vale. Complaints related to the unlawful distribution of rubbish, general misbehaviour of children such as throwing stones and acting abusively, and a perceived lack of supervision of young people. Subsequent consultations with Sudanese community leaders discovered a number of families and individuals were facing a wide range of settlement issues in the Wyndham community; they were feeling disconnected, neglected, unheard and alone.

Since the Journey, there has been a decrease in the Sudanese community's negative involvement with police and no complaints to council regarding the Sudanese community.

Contact: Ms Jennie Barrera, Wyndham Humanitarian Network

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Email: jennieb@werribeecc.net

CRYPAR (Coordinated Response to Young People at Risk) (Queensland)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

Coordinated Report to Young People at Risk (CRYPAR) is a collaborative initiative that aims to assist young people in addressing issues which are often identified as contributing factors in the development of criminal and antisocial behaviour and family dysfunction. CRYPAR provides a referral pathway that allows police officers to refer young people to an agency that is equipped to address the specific needs of the young person and their family. Referrals are responded to within 48 hours.

CRYPAR receives no ongoing funding. In 2006, the Federal Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs provided \$255,000 to fund CRYPAR for three years through its Local Answers initiative.

In excess of 800 referrals have now been made in the North Brisbane and Pine Rivers police districts. Of the individuals referred, 85 percent have had not had adverse contact with police since their referral. Of those who had a history of offending, 66 percent have not offended since their referral.

Contact: Senior Sergeant Rob Fiedler, Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Police–Citizens Youth Welfare Association

Phone: 07 3909 9555

Email: rob.fiedler@pcyc.org.au

Women's Legal Referral Service (Western Australia)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Women's Legal Referral Service (WLRS) assesses the eligibility for assistance of victims of domestic violence based on their access to funds to obtain legal advice, merits of application and need for assistance.

If a woman is eligible, she receives referrals to the affiliated Women's Health Services Organisations or alternatively, legal advice is provided by one of the five in-house solicitors contracted to the WLRS.

The project is funded to mid 2009 by grants provided by The Law Society Western Australia and the state Attorney General's Department.

The long-term goals are to empower women to leave violent relationships and reduce reliance on government assistance. This ultimately prevents serious assaults and terminates the cycle of violence that leads to a variety of crimes.

Some outcomes have been:

- clients have participated in their own legal proceedings, leading to a sense of empowerment evidenced by an intention to complete further education
- clients have established their independence from government assistance.

Contact: Ms Di Annear, Project Coordinator, Women's Legal Referral Service

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Email: di.annear@whs.org.au

Legal Education and Awareness Project (LEAP) (South Australia)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

The *Legal Education Awareness Project* (LEAP) is an early intervention crime prevention project providing targeted legal education to at-risk youth, particularly refugees and socially excluded young people. LEAP works in collaboration with over 23 partner organisations including settlement services providers, SA Police and school communities. Young people are engaged in legal education at a range of venues including outdoor sporting grounds, public libraries, schools and community centres. The legal education modules include information about legal rights and responsibilities of young people, criminal offences, group offending, the role of police, information about the youth court and how to access legal advice and representation among other topics. LEAP was initially funded as a one year pilot project by the state Attorney-Generals' Crime Prevention Grant and the Legal Services Commission. In recognition of the project's achievements, the Commission has continued to fund the project in order to meet the demand for targeted legal education and for professional development on juvenile justice issues for service providers.

Contact: Mr Christian Cifuentes, Legal Education Officer, Legal Services Commission of South Australia

Phone: 08 8463 3699

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GOTTAWANNA (got-to-want-to) (Tasmania)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Holyoake *Gottawanna* program is a specialist therapeutic service for adults seeking help for their alcohol/drug misuse or other addictive behaviour. It combines therapy-based group work and one-on-one counseling.

The program was funded between July 2006 and June 2008 by the Tasmanian Community Fund and continues to run because of client demand. However, continuation will not be economically feasible beyond July 2009 without further sponsorship.

The program's primary goal is to reduce violence and crime associated with addictive behaviours for individuals, families and the community.

Outcomes:

- the University of Tasmania formally evaluated the program in October 2008. Participants completed pre-, mid- and post-surveys assessing their quality of life. The outcomes were extremely positive demonstrating the program produced a reduction in violence and crime.

Client outcomes include:

- quality of life and health satisfaction ratings based on the World Health Organisation Quality of Life scale will (and do) indicate that perceived quality of life increases as people move through the program
- a reduction in the level of dependence, as assessed by the Severity of Dependence Scale

- a reduction in the severity of problematic behaviours through skills gained and development of self-efficacy
- an improvement in client relationships, mood, activities of daily living and role functioning as assessed by the BASIS-32 (a standard consumer outcome measure in mental health)
- an extremely high level of client satisfaction with the program.

Unanticipated outcome:

- based on *Gottawanna's* reputation and success, Hobart Risdon Prison approached Holyoake to implement a tailored version of the program to prisoners prior to their release.

Contact: Ms Sarah Charlton, CEO, Holyoake Tasmania Inc.

Phone: 03 6224 1777

Email: sarah@holyoake.com.au

Eleven projects received \$1,000 and Certificates of Merit

Awareness to Action—Fly a White Balloon 'Breaking the silence of child sexual abuse: keeping kids safe in our community' (Victoria)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Awareness to Action—Fly a White Balloon is a rural crime prevention project engaging local communities in collaborative action. Our vision is 'communities united in keeping children safe from child sexual abuse'.

Regional support bringing communities together:

- raising community awareness
- increasing community knowledge and understanding
- facilitating and supporting community engagement in ongoing action.

Outcomes include:

- a 10 year awareness campaign with strong 'whole of community' engagement
- widespread dissemination of information
- events, workshops and school/community education programs
- local government recognition of the role this plays in community safety
- local and regional network and partnership development
- a model for community engagement in crime prevention
- ongoing research with evolution of specific projects addressing identified needs.

Internal and external evaluation has identified ongoing community support and shifts in attitudes, local needs, ongoing commitment as well as gaps in knowledge. Project financing is through donation, in-kind support and minor issue-based funding.

Contact: Ms Margaret Hunter, Gateway Community Health
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Email: mhunter@gatewaycommunityhealth.org.au

Joint Treatment Program (JTP)—Prisoners with a Cognitive Impairment (Victoria)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The *Joint Treatment Program* (JTP) is operated by Corrections Victoria (CV), Department of Health and Safety (DHS) and PPP, with associate partners, The Big Issue and Moreland Hall.

This holistic program, operating at PPP is a 24 hours a day, seven days per week is a treatment community for prisoners with a cognitive impairment. Supported by custodial and clinical staff, it incorporates adapted therapeutic, educational and recreational programs.

A key focus is community transition, with weekly street soccer training an integral component. This engages participants in team-based exercise and provides exiting prisoners with a direct link to a familiar, regular community activity. Enhancing this link, and recognising participants need support to transfer their improved skills/behaviours to the community, a DHS/CV protocol includes engagement of a post-release case manager.

With the long-term goal of reducing the rate of recidivism among this population, goals include program engagement and compliance, improved harm minimisation and positive progress on behaviours and self-regulation.

This population often becomes 'uncontactable' following release, however through the project, they now attend weekly community training sessions. Another outcome is a reduction in the number of prison incidents.

Contact: Mr Peter Persson, Manager, Disability Policy, Corrections Victoria
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Safe City Advisory Committee (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The *Safe City Advisory Committee* brings together representatives from council, Queensland Police and community stakeholders in an integrated and strategic approach to crime prevention in Logan City. The aim of the partnership is to value-add to the resources of the individual agencies and the knowledge of local residents by developing a cohesive approach to enhanced safety outcomes within Logan.

The partnership's objectives are twofold. First, work proactively to identify potential areas of concern in the community and implement a strategic framework for information sharing and collaborative prioritisation of tasks. This also includes the provision of 'grassroots' awareness campaigns in targeted areas, community education and harnessing the local knowledge of people living within the community.

Second, the partnership supports an integrated and rapid response to critical incidents which have emerged as a cause for concern.

This partnership approach has led to an enhanced capacity for responding effectively to criminal activity, a renewed sense of collective safety within Logan and an enhanced awareness of the need for community stakeholders to work collaboratively to create safer and more liveable communities.

Contact: Ms Jane Frawley, Community Services Manager, Logan City Council

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Email: [janefrawley@logan.qld.gov.au](mailto:jane.frawley@logan.qld.gov.au)

'THE HEIGHTS' Community Centre (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Safer Toowoomba Partnerships identified that the northwest sector of Toowoomba had many social and crime-related challenges. With this in mind, *The Heights Community Centre* was established to provide a venue where the community can come together to develop their own solutions through involvement in locally developed projects. A coordinator, together with a group of volunteers including a trainee with a visual disability and a Sudanese person doing work experience, is supported by a task group who identifies issues in the community and then establishes programs to address these issues.

The Australian Government Attorney-General's Department has provided three year funding. We have also received funding from the local council and community organisations.

Some of the long-term goals are to develop a stronger community by increasing awareness and ownership of the issues relating to crime, for example, to improve older people's quality of life through overcoming fear of crime and isolation.

A report in the local Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter from the local police beat officer advised that there had been two traffic accidents, three burglaries and one vehicle theft in the month of May. His comments were this was exceptional considering what was happening in other areas.

Contact: Mr Geoff Holmes, Safer Toowoomba Partnership Inc

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Barambah Community Support Project (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The *Barambah Community Support Project* (BCSP) is an initiative of the South Burnett CTC and the Queensland Police Service. The project employs Indigenous community members to assist Murgon police to observe and support at-risk prisoners held in custody at the Murgon Watch House in line with the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

The objectives of the project are to:

- implement the Barambah Community Support Project

- reduce incidences of self-inflicted injury and other health complications stemming from alcohol and other drug use, as well as reduce isolation and distress for the incarcerated target group
- increase the amount of alcohol and/or drug support accessed by the target group
- reduce incarceration rates resulting from outstanding fines
- encourage more frequent and effective communication between the target group and Murgon police
- increase Indigenous community involvement in policing strategies in the Murgon/Cherbourg area to improve police–community relations
- reduce calls for service for Murgon and Cherbourg police officers
- educate and divert young people and other members of the community from using alcohol and drugs.

The project also assists operational policing as community support officers assist watch house prisoners by collecting clothing and meals, contacting relatives, filling medical prescriptions and providing court/community conferencing support.

The long-term goals of the project are to divert drug and alcohol-affected prisoners from the Murgon Watch House and protect incarcerated Indigenous prisoners who are harmful to themselves and/or others.

Since the beginning of this project, prisoners in the Murgon Watch House have remained free from self-harm or harm by others. Incarcerated juveniles have received increased support and supervision. BCSOs conduct diversion activities in Cherbourg's Les Stewart Sports Complex every Thursday and Friday night with Indigenous police liaison officers. Incidents of juvenile offending is now reduced on Thursdays and Fridays in Cherbourg compared to previous years when no diversion programs were operating. Further, BCSOs have decreased non-attendance at school and alternative learning programs by patrolling the streets of Cherbourg and Murgon most mornings to identify truants.

Contact: Ms Kirsten Firman, Manager Youth Services, South Burnett C.T.C.

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Email: kirsten@sbctc.com.au

Street Angels (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Funded by the Department of Communities and the Sunshine Coast Regional Council, the *Street Angels* public safety service provides extensive community benefit and critical support for individuals in need by:

- providing basic first aid, care and support to individuals in need as a result of intoxication or homelessness
- increasing public safety and reducing the risk of crime to residents and visitors to the Mooloolaba district, through the provision of regular on-street safety patrols every Friday and Saturday night with data being provided to Sunshine Coast Regional Council, Queensland Police Service and other relevant stakeholders
- supporting major events including New Years Eve and Schoolies Week
- providing emergency transport and referral to appropriate services

- reducing incidence of injury and accidents involving nightclub patrons in the Mooloolaba district
- increasing awareness of potential crime and public safety issues through Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (public safety audits).

Contact: Mr Ritchie Duce, Community Solutions Inc.

Phone: 07 5437 9499

Email: rduce@community-solutions.com.au

Malaga Crime Management Forum (Western Australia)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The *Malaga Crime Management Forum* is a federally-funded partnership between the Malaga and Districts Business Association, the City Of Swan and the Western Australia Police—Ballajura. Our mission statement is *working together to prevent and reduce crime, increase community safety and enhance the quality of life for the Malaga business community.*

As a team, we work together via monthly committee meetings to decide how best to implement the strategies and objectives outlined in the funding contract. Our strategies are designed to achieve the long term goal of reducing actual and perceived crime using CCTV cameras in 'hot spots' in a large industrial area. Other strategies include:

- free on-site crime advice
- free use of engravers to mark and identify property.

Tangible outcomes have been the CCTV cameras and the erection of surveillance signage at main exits and entrances, promotional material and media releases.

Contact: Ms Sherrilee Walsh, Project Officer, Malaga & Districts Business Association

Phone: 08 9248 2526

Email: projectofficer@malagab2b.com.au

Choosing Fright-free, Fight-free Viewing: a program for parents of young children (South Australia)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The program contributes to reducing violence, callousness towards violence and fears of being a victim of violence by reducing young children's repeated exposure to glamorised, gratuitous and/or gory portrayals of violence in screen media. Evidence-based, it utilises the strategy of informing parents of the short and long-term risks and motivating and supporting them in making non-violent choices of entertainment for children under eight years of age.

Components include:

- awareness sessions with a professionally produced DVD and booklet
- lists of selected age-appropriate non-violent media for children
- access to Know Before You Go reviews of current movies
- advocacy against marketing violent media to young children.

One-off federal, and continuing SA Government, funding provide part support supplemented by Australian Council on Children and the Media resources and volunteers.

Long-term goals include successful advocacy for a less violent media environment and greater parental awareness and motivation to avoid risks. Early evaluation shows positive outcomes.

Contact: Ms Pamela Wright, Development Officer, Australian Council on Children and the Media

Phone: 08 8376 2111

Email: helpline@youngmedia.org.au

Victim Support Service Home Security Audit and Installation Program (South Australia)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Residential break and enter is one of the most frequently-reported crimes to police, creating major concerns for law enforcement agencies and policymakers. The offence has many consequences including the emotional and economic impact on victims, police and community resources. There is good reason, therefore, to investigate ways of reducing the occurrence of this crime.

Crime prevention work undertaken elsewhere indicates that it is possible to reduce the overall number of break and enter offences by preventing a repeat offence on the same victim.

The main goal of the project is to provide increased security to victims of home invasion after they have been victimised (research shows that victims are four times more likely to be broken into again within 4–6 weeks of the crime) as well as provide increased security to those at high risk of being broken into.

The service is managed by a qualified professional and has the benefit of using highly trained volunteers to provide the audit service. The purchase and installation of security items is performed by a locksmith (in a partnership arrangement) or a skilled handyman depending upon the location of the residence.

We attracted private and public sector multi-agency funding for the initial two years, however this was not continued which is why we now fund this project to the best of our ability within our normal budget, although at a reduced level.

Our long term goals are to provide an ongoing home security service to individuals and families who have been burgled and assist with the protection and security of the premises.

Contact: Mr David Kerr, Manager, Professional Services Victim Support Service, Victim Support Service Incorporated

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Xcell (Tasmania)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Xcell program is a pre- and post-release prison support program, providing individual intervention primarily in the area of alcohol and drugs, while providing

referral for support for additional issues (such as housing, financial, health etc). The program receives referrals from Tasmania Prison Services, family members, other agencies and those who are generally concerned about someone who is incarcerated. Upon receiving a referral, the *Xcell* staff visit the incarcerated person six to eight weeks prior to their release. An assessment of that person's needs is conducted and counselling offered. Alternatively, staff can work with the individual to complete the Positive Lifestyles Program on a one-on-one basis or provide an anger management program if required.

The *Xcell* program is funded by the Department of Justice and The Salvation Army.

The long-term goals of the *Xcell* program are to provide individuals with support in addressing their alcohol and other drugs issues prior to their release from prison. Such support aims to assist the individual in gaining the knowledge and skills required to obtain control over their addiction and put in place positive lifestyle changes to assist in their recovery in the community. The ultimate goal of this program is to equip individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to reduce the risk of reoffending and re-entering the criminal justice system. This is achieved through providing a holistic form of intervention, linking clients with a range of additional support services such as housing, employment etc.

The outcomes of the *Xcell* program have been assisting individuals in reducing their alcohol and other drug use while in prison and upon release, remaining abstinent from alcohol and other drug use, reuniting with families, gaining employment post-release, obtaining and sustaining accommodation upon release, remaining free from offending behaviours and gaining further support for their alcohol and other drug use upon release (eg rehabilitation programs).

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Ulverstone High Outreach Pathways (Tasmania)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Ulverstone High Outreach Pathways project is a tailored and positive learning environment that influences the engagement of, and support to, students who experience difficulties in learning and achieving good educational outcomes. In particular, the program targets students with challenging behaviours who are at high risk of underdeveloped understanding, skills and the attributes needed for lifelong learning.

Funding for the *Outreach Pathways* pilot program has been generated jointly from Learning Services North West Flexible Provision program and Ulverstone High School, using allocated teacher time funding.

The program's long-term goals include:

- provision of ongoing accessible opportunities for engagement and increased educational outcomes
- to break down barriers to social inclusion by increased access to positive role models, reduced behavioural and communication difficulties and increased opportunity to access contacts and networks of support

- one hundred percent reduction in offending behaviour within this cohort
- sustainability of the program.

Some of the tangible outcomes, including any unanticipated outcomes have been:

- improved sense of self-worth/achievement and connection with their community
- marked reduction in offending behaviour and reduction in crime
- the tutor/mentor working alongside the students was awarded the Tasmanian Crime Prevention Individual Award in 2008.

Contact: Mr Glen Lutwyche (Principal), Ulverstone High School

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Two projects received Meritorious Police Certificates

Elizabeth Police—Uniform Tactical Team (encompassing the role of the Suburban Police Officer project) (South Australia)

Award: Meritorious Police Certificate

The *Elizabeth Police Uniform Tactical Team* was formed as an additional tactical response option that could respond in real time to crime within a defined geographical area. The Uniform Tactical Team (UTT) is a highly responsive investigative unit directed by the supervisor. The focus of the UTT is to significantly impact on volume crime levels and target identified-volume crime.

The suburban police officer role is where a police officer is allocated to a particular suburb which continually has a high incidence of crime, safety and disorder issues. This concept allows for a comprehensive degree of ownership and accountability and encourages input and participation from the local community. In 2006, suburban police office Senior Constable Edman was awarded the South Australian Police Officer of the year award for her efforts and commitment to Davoren Park.

When comparing crime victim reports between July 2005 and June 2007 and reported crime July 2008 to March 2009, there is a total reduction of 12.5 percent in victim reported crime within the EHLSA . This reduction cannot be attributed to the UTT however; it is widely acknowledged that the UTT and suburban police officer members are the major contributors to this reduction in crime.

Contact: Superintendent Ferdi Pit, South Australia Police (SAPOL)—

Elizabeth Police Local Service Area

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Domestic Violence Intervention Response Team (New South Wales)

Award: Meritorious Police Certificate

Domestic Violence Intervention Response Team (DVIRT) is an integrated case management service model providing holistic, transparent and multifaceted approaches to domestic and family violence in the Brisbane Water Local Area Command (BWLAC).

It offers a range of services including referral, support, advocacy, outreach and integrated case management to police clients of domestic and family violence. Phone contact is made within a 24 to 48 hour timeframe where possible.

DVIRT is currently funded by the Department Of Community Services, Communities division and is managed by NSW Police, BWLAC.

Long term goals include:

- increased safety, support and information provided to victims at the time of crisis
- increased number of Police victims attending court for Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO) matters
- reduce the number of withdrawals of ADVO's
- increase the reporting of breaches of ADVO's
- strong, effective interagency relationships—a coordinated and holistic approach to domestic and family violence
- provide a comprehensive ICM strategy for Police nominated high risk domestic and family violence.

Outcomes:

- high proportion of victim contact—high levels of community referrals and continued integrated case management strategies for DVIRT clients
- increased awareness and knowledge for clients—autonomy and good choices
- excellent interagency collaboration—numerous memorandums in place with government and non-government agencies
- reduction of victims withdrawing from ADVOS
- increased relations between community, police and Department of Community Services
- effective training of police—inclusion of DVIRT in police training
- participation in specific domestic violence police operations targeting high risk victims and offenders.

**Contact: Ms Leeanne Livens—DVIRT Service Manager, NSW Police;
Brisbane Water Local Area Command**

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Ten projects received Certificates of Merit

Cross Border Programs (Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The project delivers a family violence program to Indigenous perpetrators of family violence in the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Lands of South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Also a brief family violence program is delivered to the offenders' partners. The 54 hour program is delivered

in the communities by program officers and local cultural brokers. It is usually delivered 3.5 hours per day, four days per week for four weeks.

Funding for the project is provided by the Australian Government through the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs with contributions from the governments of South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

The project aims to reduce the incidence of physical and psychological harm in Indigenous communities of Central Australia by developing and delivering culturally and linguistically appropriate programs to address issues of family violence, anger management and substance misuse. The project is targeted at perpetrators of family violence and will help break the cycle of violence across generations.

Contact: Mr Graeme Pearce, Northern Territory Correctional Services

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Beach Property Minding Service (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The *Beach Property Minding Service* (BPMS) aims to minimise the theft of personal property and the trauma and inconvenience to beach goers by providing a free service which enables beach goers to have their personal belongings cared for by council staff. To coincide with this service, the council ran an education campaign reminding beach goers that 'thieves go to the beach too' and actively informed the public of ways they can minimise their chances of becoming a victim. The council allocates funds annually to run the BPMS. The public's appreciation of having somewhere to store their personal belongings has facilitated discussions around the provision of a permanent storage facility which is available all year round.

The service has resulted in significant positive outcomes for the community including:

- improving overall beach safety by increasing the effectiveness of lifeguards while on duty
- improving overall community safety by reducing incidents of theft, thereby increasing the police resources available to other areas and for other incidents
- improving the feelings of safety and wellbeing of beach users
- providing valuable tourism and customer service advice to beach users.

Contact: Ms Marissa Racomelara—Youth Projects & Crime Prevention Manager, Sutherland Shire Council

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RAGE—Renegotiating Angry and Guilty Emotions (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The *Renegotiating Angry and Guilty Emotions* (RAGE) project provides six week ongoing courses to young people dealing with anger issues in high school years seven to 10, with a core aim of preventing domestic and family violence. The program has

also been adapted to suit children in years five and six. The group teaches anger recognition skills, identification of personal triggers, strategies for taking control of anger, dealing with guilt and healthy expressions of anger through games with prizes and fun activities in a supportive environment.

Long-term goals of the project include preventing domestic and family violence (with ongoing intergenerational benefits), by teaching young people healthy ways of dealing with anger and aggression. It is hoped that these skills will be carried by participants into their adult lives and that they will pass the same skills on to their own children.

The courses we have run have had a 300 percent higher demand than anticipated and courses are always full. In addition to this, as a direct result of the need for this kind of work, a resource tool *Breaking Point, Breaking Through* was published and rolled out across the sector in New South Wales—for workers working with families of adolescents with anger issues. This was a joint project between the family support program of Richmond Community Services Inc, the Prevention of Violence Against Women's Unit in the Department of Community Services and the University of Western Sydney. The written resource consists of a literature review, information on adolescent violence to assist in casework and the RAGE group program. Training on the resource has since been run and more training sessions are planned as interest from the sector has been exceptionally strong. In addition to this, our family support workers have provided training to the Department of Community Service's workers in delivery of the RAGE program and are in demand to provide similar programs to other organisations.

Contact: Ms Yatra Sherwood, Richmond Community Services Inc.

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Girl Power (Victoria)

Award: Certificate of Merit

Girl Power was developed in response to the perceived needs of vulnerable young women who are:

- experiencing instability or impending crisis in their lives
- are socially disconnected
- who become involved in dysfunctional and 'unsafe' relationships as a means of support.

The *Girl Power: Self Protection and Leadership Program* aims to reduce crime committed by and/or against at-risk young women by:

- increasing self-protective behaviours
- building individual resilience and coping skills
- increasing self-esteem and assertiveness in relationships
- improving their problem-solving skills
- enhancing personal motivation and goal-setting skills
- increasing their awareness of and links to community based support services.

Girl Power has two main components—self-defence instruction and information sharing and discussion around issues such as domestic violence, drug and alcohol

use, personal safety and safe sex. The emphasis is on teaching the young women how to make sensible decisions about their physical safety and greater wellbeing and to mitigate the degree of risk they are exposed to. The program content and modules are adjusted according to particular needs of the young women in each program.

Contact: Ms Clare Griffin, YWCA Victoria

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Supporting Children in Primary Schools (SCIPS) (Queensland)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The overarching vision of the *Supporting Children in Primary Schools* program is that at-risk children are prevented from entering the criminal justice system by supporting their education with a whole of community support and intervention.

The programs long term goals are to assist children to reach their full potential by addressing social and emotional barriers to learning and offset the disadvantage (and over-representation in the criminal justice system) of those who become disengaged from education.

An embedded community worker within schools develops personalised networks of support through linkages between the school community, families and the human service sector. This results in keeping at risk children engaged in education and supported by the community while on their own journey to a positive, law abiding and successful life in the future.

Outcomes include 90 percent of referrals showing improvement, 70 different new supports introduced into the schools and 50 percent of referrals for absenteeism became regular attendees.

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'SSx2' senior's Subsidy Scheme (Western Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The program was initially implemented as part of the City of Cockburn's Community Safety & Crime Prevention plan to help create a safe and secure environment for older West Australians.

The program's primary function is to offer senior's security advice and financial assistance in target hardening their homes against crime and reducing the fear of crime.

Long term goals are:

- Create safer communities for older people while diminishing their fear of crime.
- Promote a sense of safety and security/inhibit social isolation.
- Reduce the number of burglaries

Outcomes include a noticeable growth in SSx2 requests, as with increased and more frequent requests for other free safety and security services/workshops offered by Cockburn.

Unanticipated outcomes:

- Several councils requested information and have since implemented similar programs as a direct result from SSx2 Program
- Department for Communities Policy & Planning recently approached Cockburn requesting information regarding the SSx2 scheme with a view to consider adopting similar strategy
- Opportunity to disseminate senior specific information to participants, further reducing social isolation

Contact: Ms Shirley Elliott, Community Safety Coordinator, City of Cockburn

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Comprehensive Auto-theft Research System (CARS) (South Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

CARS integrates vehicle theft-related data from more than 40 sources across Australia into a single comprehensive database. Data sources include state and territory police services, vehicle registration authorities and motor vehicle insurers among others. CARS commenced as a South Australian initiative in 1995 and expanded nationally in 1999. CARS functions as a national statistical and research centre serving the needs of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council and those with a genuine interest in reducing vehicle theft.

CARS is extensively used by stakeholders to monitor trends, develop and evaluate theft-reduction policies and to raise community and industry awareness of vehicle theft-related issues. The only centre of its kind, CARS has been internationally acknowledged as best practice. As at June 2009, Australia is on target to record a 55 percent reduction in vehicle thefts since 2000–01. This decline rate is higher than that recorded for other forms of property crime.

Contact: Mr Paul Thomas, Manager Office of Crime Statistics and Research, South Australian Attorney General's Department

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Restorative Justice in South Australian Schools (South Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The program operates through training, consultation and ongoing support to school leadership, staff and students in creating, implementing and sustaining changes necessary within behavioural management processes. These changes allow those involved in conflict to work together to repair the harm caused, resolve outstanding issues that have occurred as a result of the conflict or were instrumental in the conflict occurring.

Long term the program achieves a generation of individuals more able to resolve their conflicts without allowing those conflicts escalating or requiring the involvement of external locus's of control. This does and will continue to increase positive

connectedness of individuals to organisations and communities which results in a reduction in offending at all levels as well as an increase in the learning outcomes of all involved. (improved connections → increased wellbeing → reduced offending → improved learning → sustained interest and connection)

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Adelaide Hills Vocational College (South Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The AHVC is an initiative of Mount Barker High School and TafeSA. Within the Adelaide Hills region it was apparent that many young people had disengaged from education and their community. An adult learning facility was established on the TafeSA Mount Barker site to deliver both SACE Stage 1 and 2, VET and work place options to disengaged young people.

The goal is to provide opportunities for young people who have not succeeded in mainstream education and improve the potential for them to develop successful, productive lives. These opportunities include dealing with social barriers which are impacting on their lives, providing access to further education and training, creating career pathways and engaging young people in a positive way with their community.

Outcomes achieved include young people finding employment, attending further education including tertiary studies, completing SACE, addressing social barriers and a reduction in juvenile justice issues.

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Young Offender Victim Awareness Program (South Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The project involves one or two counsellors from Victim Support Service negotiating session times and content with Magill staff at the commencement of the year. Then after preparation and tailoring of the program, if required, the counsellors attend and conduct workshops of two hours duration with the participants. These are tailored for adult learning participation through practical examples and interactive discussion and activities by participants. One session involves a very moving and emotionally challenging presentation by a crime victim with a fairly horrendous home invasion and assault experience to talk through.

Feedback sheets are distributed at the completion of the course.

The program has been funded by Victim Support Service for many years although a Morialta Trust grant was awarded for partial funding of the program last year to continue it at Magill and extend it to the second youth facility at Cavan, also in Adelaide.

Expected outcomes of the project:

- Participants encouraged to consider their choices, responsibilities and the long term effects of offending.
- Victim Awareness Programs aims to heighten cognitive empathy skills of the young offenders.
- Speakers who are victims to present the program resulting in a personal restorative benefit.
- Reduce incidence of offending in the long term.

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