



community Connect



January 2013

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of **Community Connect**, the Safe Communities America newsletter. This bi-monthly newsletter will focus on the news, events, and accomplishments of the communities in our networks, news on the international front, as well as funding and program opportunities.

We will be reaching out to all of you for contributions to the newsletter and for suggestions on how to make it a more helpful and relevant publication.

There are soon to be 23 designated communities in the US and more than 300 worldwide. Through ongoing training in leadership development, evaluation, data collection, and the engaged and committed participation of community leaders, Safe Communities America is one of the fastest growing networks in the world. This high level of commitment pays off - a recent NSC study shows that people living in counties of a US designated Safe Community are safer than comparable counties and have 9% fewer fatalities from injuries. Currently, more than 6 million people live in a designated US Safe Community – our goal of **10 million people** in 4 years is within reach.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Safe Communities and the safety and well-being of the people who live, work, and play in the communities where you live.

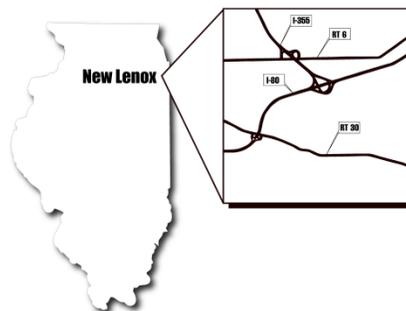
Donna Stein-Harris
Senior Director
Safe Communities America

Community Highlights

New Lenox, IL

Designation: 2010
International Safe Community: #188
Population: 24,538

Congratulations to our New Lenox Safe Community for being awarded the 2012 [Governor's Home Town Award](#) (GHTA) on Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012 for the [Sharefest](#)



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Welcome to the Network!



Murray State University held their designation ceremony on December 7, 2012.



event. Sharefest, which ties directly into the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition and Citizen Corps mission, is an annual event involving more than 70 local organizations working together to meet the community's needs. This event included a health and safety fair, a hazardous waste collection drive, and a food and clothing drive, just to name a few activities. More than 550 volunteers participated in ShareFest!

The community also received this award in 2011 for their "[Preparing Citizens for Emergencies and Disasters](#)" initiative. Through this initiative, more than 200 residents have completed the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.



To congratulate our partners in New Lenox or learn more about the coalition, visit safenewlenox.org.

This newsletter is about you and your community. One of our objectives is to provide an additional opportunity to share your community's initiatives, accomplishments and recognition with one another. We will be reaching out to you, but please feel free share what you are doing in an email to Suja.Shunmugavelu@nsc.org.

News

The Safe Communities America program for Kentucky

The Kentucky project is a pilot program in partnership between Safe Communities America (SCA) and the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC). The goals are to:

- Identify and recruit Kentucky counties with high injury rates to adopt the SCA model
- Reach 50% of Kentucky's population in 5 years to reduce injuries and deaths

KIPRC was designated an Affiliate Safe Communities Support Center on May 4, 2012. In this capacity, KIPRC will assist local communities in developing sustainable initiatives in injury and violence prevention. KIPRC is already making strides – they have organized a state-wide Safe Communities committee to help lead this effort, are reaching out to local businesses for support and developed resources to move this effort forward. We will continue to highlight our partnership with KIPRC and show you progress throughout the year.

National Safe Community Designation

A National Designation is now available through Safe Communities America. Communities can choose to apply for either national, international or both designations. The process is similar, but the national and international applications are a bit different. To find out more about the new designation, please visit [Becoming a Safe Community](#).

Murray State University is our 22nd Safe Community in America and 299th International Safe Community.

[Murray Ledger & Times](#)

Kentucky Governor, **Steve Beshear**, [congratulates Murray State](#).

and
soon to be designated



Fort Worth, TX

Fort Worth, Texas will hold their designation ceremony on February 12, 2013.



[Star-Telegram article](#)

Safe Communities webinar

In October 2012, members from our network presented at a Safe States/CDC sponsored event on Safe Communities. Our presenters included:

- Donna Stein-Harris (NSC, Safe Communities America) provided an overview of Safe Communities America
- Cheryl Wittke (Safe Communities of Madison/Dane County, WI) shared the progress they have made in the past 13 years and the opportunities that come from being a designated Safe Community
- Debra Houry (Emory University Center for Injury Control), discussed why Emory University decided to become a Safe Community and how that came to fruition
- Steve Sparrow (Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center) talked about goals for the Safe Communities America program for Kentucky
- Genia McKee (Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center) outlined the successes of Safe Communities in Madison County, KY

Listen to the entire [webinar](#).

Safety 2012 World Conference



Every two years, the Safe Communities America program of the National Safety Council participates in a worldwide safety conference convened through the World Health Organization's (WHO) Violence and Injury and Prevention Division. This highly acclaimed meeting attracts researchers and community leaders from all over the world. The Safety 2012 World Conference was held in Wellington, New Zealand, and supported in part by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Safe Communities Foundation of New Zealand.

Shelli Stephens-Stidham, Donna Stein-Harris, Terry Bunn and Marcia Howell (pictured above, left to right), members of our Safe Communities America network, were representing our initiatives.

- Donna Stein-Harris, senior director of Safe Communities America, presented a paper, "[Building a Sustainable Safe Communities Network: the American Experience](#)," at the conference
- Terry Bunn, director of the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center presented on drug use and motor vehicle crashes. [Terry's presentation](#)
- Marcia Howell, from Anchorage, AK Safe Communities, presented the International Safety Media Awards. [See Marcia here](#)

View the keynote and state of art presentations at www.safety2012.org.nz.



Want to make sure you get every issue?

Send us a quick email and we'll add you to our list!
scainfo@nsc.org



Please share what you plan on doing in the next year to make our world safer.



The National Safety Council is a Certifying Center and an Affiliate Safe Community Support Center to the [WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion, Karolinska Institutet](#)

Upcoming Opportunities

The Campbell Institute/Stewardship Action Council Innovation Challenge

Communities that partner with local businesses, large and small, on community safety initiatives may be interested in exploring this prestigious recognition. The Campbell Institute/Stewardship Action Council Innovation Challenge honors organizations for their achievement in the planning and implementation of an innovative program which addresses specific key Environmental Health Safety (EHS) topics.

2013 Innovation Challenge topics will be Off-the-Job Public/Private Partnerships and Zero Waste. Awards will be given for existing and/or new programs in multiple categories, including but not limited to "best implementation plan," "best path forward," "best results" and "best overall proposal."

To learn more about the Challenge, visit the [Campbell Institute](#) or email Laura.Fiffick@nsc.org, Senior Director, Campbell Institute.

Office of National Drug Control Policy

The Drug Free Communities Support Program (DFC) is a Federal grant program that provides funding to community-based coalitions that organize to prevent youth substance use. In mid-January, FY 2013 DFC Request for Applications (RFA), will be published at [SAMHSA](#), [Grants.Gov](#), and on the [ONDPC website](#). Learn more about the program at the [Office of National Drug Control Policy](#).

Ruddie Memorial Youth Foundation Youth Program Evaluation Grants

The Ruddie Memorial Youth Foundation has announced the availability of evaluation grants for innovative youth programs (birth to 25 years of age) to fund studies that document successful programs.

Grants are designed to fund the evaluation of innovative youth programs or services with the purpose of identifying which programs and services are most effective. The foundation seeks to support programs that are innovative and have a potentially replicable service concept.

To apply, please visit <http://www.rmyf.org/>
Deadline: Wednesday, July 17, 2013 by 5:00 p.m. EDT

Retirement Research Foundation General Grants

The Retirement Research Foundation (RRF) is devoted solely to serving the needs of older persons in the United States. Through its General Grants Program, RRF supports direct service, advocacy, education and training programs for professionals working directly with elders as well as research to improve quality of life and independence for vulnerable older adults.

Contact Us

Safe Communities America
National Safety Council
1121 Spring Lake Drive
Itasca, Illinois 60143



scainfo@nsc.org



630-775-2555

To apply, please visit <http://www.rff.org/grants-programs/grants>
Deadlines: February 1, May 1 and August. Decisions are made four months after each deadline.

International Corner

Safe Communities America is part of the Pan Pacific Safe Communities Network – a network of all safe communities in the United States, New Zealand, Australia and Canada.



Learn more about our international partners.

[Australian Safe Communities Foundation](#)

[Safe Communities Foundation of New Zealand](#)

A special thanks to our national partners



...and to The Dow Chemical Company and ExxonMobil for local community coalition support