



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Criminology



Winning projects 2007

To be announced by Senator the Hon. David Johnston,
Minister for Justice and Customs and Senator for Western
Australia on Tuesday, 23 October 2007

AUSTRALIAN CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION AWARDS

<http://www.aic.gov.au/acvpa>

Selection board

Dr Toni Makkai (Chair)	Australian Government
Mr Paul Friedman	Queensland
Ms Lil Hays	Australian Capital Territory
Mrs Pat Morris	Western Australia
Supt Mick Plotecki	New South Wales
Sgt Alexander (Sandy) Morey	South Australia
Ms Clare Malone	Victoria
Ms Sandra Lovell	Tasmania

ACVPA national winners

Four projects received national awards

The Caversham Training and Enterprise Centre Program (Western Australia)

Award: \$10,000 and National Certificate

The Caversham Training and Enterprise Centre (CTEC) is a local area community crime prevention and youth re-engagement initiative in Western Australia that provides young people at risk of not completing compulsory schooling, or at risk of school exclusion, with access to education and training. Operating out of a once-derelict primary school, young people are taught the necessary construction and trade skills to transform the abandoned facility into an enterprise and training centre for predominantly Aboriginal youth.

The facility is also used to educate students in numeracy, literacy and art studies, while building their resilience, autonomy and sense of self-worth. Participants are aged between 15 and 19 years, demonstrate risk factors associated with antisocial and criminal behaviour, and do not fit the standard delivery models for education and training. The program uses positive role models in informal surroundings to improve the employability of participants and reduce their risk of reoffending.

Contact: Larry Davies, CEO, Directions WA

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Domestic Violence Intervention Court Model (New South Wales)

Award: National Certificate

The Domestic Violence Intervention Court Model (DVICM):

- Provides more timely support to victims and children, from initial police investigation to post-court outcome, by tracking victims and children through the criminal justice system. Police, local court administration and Department of Community Services meet weekly to discuss the needs of victims and their families, whether housing, life skills training or counselling, and ensure they are given that assistance. The DVICM also tracks offenders, reducing the chances of them becoming repeat offenders. Police and Corrections staff maintain contact with the offender even after their completion of the perpetrator program and provide social support.

- Improves prosecution *without* increasing the burden on victims during the legal process. Police ask the victim if they are willing to give a verbal statement on video about the circumstances of the crime. Police also videotape any damage to the home, evidence of the crime. This electronic evidence is presented to the offender prior to the first court appearance. The ‘vivid evidence’ better displays to the offender, the defence and ultimately the court, the consequences of the crime.
- Does *not* shift the problem of domestic violence to another government agency, because victims’, children’s and offenders’ needs are shared cooperatively between Police, Department of Community, NGOs and Department of Corrections, at all phases through the criminal justice system.

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Intensive Supervision Program (Western Australia)

Award: National Certificate

The Intensive Supervision Program works to reduce juvenile offending by targeting those who commit serious and/or repeat offences, or whose severe antisocial behaviour increases their offence risk.

In an Australian first, the program uses the multi-systemic therapy model, which is backed by 30 years of applied research. Evaluations of this program worldwide show a 25–70 percent reduction in reoffending severity and frequency.

Sustained behavioural changes are achieved by working with the juvenile, their families and significant others in their environment to develop strategies that incorporate everyday demands and stresses of life. The program empowers primary caregivers with the skills and resources needed to independently address the difficulties in raising young people with behavioural problems and provides juveniles with the skills to successfully adjust to family, peers, school and neighbourhood demands.

Initial evaluation has shown reductions in the number of days in custody, custody frequency, convicted offences and the severity of offences.

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Camp IMPACT (New South Wales)

Award: National Police Medal and National Certificate

Strike Force Delage was formed to investigate a number of aggravated break, enter and steal offences in Macquarie Fields in south western Sydney. Following a police vehicle pursuit which ended in a crash killing two young suspected offenders and the escape of a third, several days of community violence ensued, targeting police with well-planned sporadic violence.

As a result of what is commonly known as the Macquarie Fields riots, the relationship between police and the youth of Macquarie Fields had completely fractured.

Macquarie Fields police initiated a number of programs with the purpose of building relationships with the youth of Macquarie Fields and reducing crime. The IMPACT Program was developed as a crime prevention strategy to engage local disaffected youth. Young males who had either been involved in the riot to some degree, or had previously had negative contact with police, are nominated to participate. The camp is aimed at participants building better rapport/trust with police, developing a sense of self-worth, identifying risks to their wellbeing, and understanding what is socially acceptable from a community perspective. Camp IMPACT also allowed police to have a greater insight into the personal lives of these young people who had come to their notice, to understand them better and interact with them in a more positive way.

The success of the camp has paved the way for further phases of the recovery program. Members of the local Youth Advisory Council identified the need to positively influence other young people in the community who did not have the opportunity to attend Camp IMPACT. As a result, two IMPACT Community Days have been held at Macquarie Fields Youth Centre with more than 80 young males and females involved. These community interactions maintain the momentum of Camp IMPACT and the influence of youths over one another and the police in a positive way.

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Four projects were awarded \$7,000 and Certificates of Merit

Broome Police & Community Youth Centre, Saturday Night Hangout (Western Australia)

Award: \$7,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Broome Police and Community Youth Centre runs a weekly crime prevention initiative project, Saturday Night Hangout, to engage and entertain large numbers of youth in a proactive strategy to meet local needs and address the incidence of youth boredom, antisocial behaviour and youth crime on a key social evening. The program is free and particularly popular, with 150–200 youths, principally from the target clientele, the less privileged within the community, in attendance.

The project is supported and funded by other key stakeholders in a collaborative approach to supervise and effectively offer a variety of recreational activities through the evening to attract and entertain youth in a safe, supervised, positive environment.

As many of the group have little money in their pockets and are often hungry, a free nutritious meal to all is offered, with approximately 100+ fed each evening. These evenings are highly popular and have proved to be an effective strategy in addressing the incidence of youth crime and to provide credible positive behavioural outcomes.

The supervised large numbers encourage a social meeting place and reduce the likelihood of contact with undesirable elements. At the conclusion of each evening,

many of the youth are driven home, dispersing the crowd and reducing the opportunity for antisocial behaviour.

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Pasifika Support Services (New South Wales)

Award: \$7,000 and Certificate of Merit

The project receives direct referrals from selected Police Local Area Commands across southwest Sydney. Pasifika Support Services undertakes a needs assessment which leads to an overarching intensive case plan utilised during the three month contact period with the client. Each young person is accessed directly in the community, where support revolves around options in education, employment and training, while also counteracting issues in health (including alcohol and other drugs), social and family support.

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WEEO WISER Project: Women Educating Each Other – Women in Safe and Equal Relationships (New South Wales)

Award: \$7,000 and Certificate of Merit

WEEO WISER is an evidence-based partnership project that aims to reduce levels of domestic violence by educating young women to develop healthy relationships and to identify and avoid abusive relationships.

The project trained and employed 16 young women as peer educators to run a specifically designed five session education program with Year 9 girls in high schools and youth services in the Liverpool area. It received three year funding from NSW Department of Community Services, through Western Sydney Area Assistance Scheme.

Twenty-two programs across 13 local high schools have been conducted with an average attendance at workshops of 15. An experienced and trained support network has been established to provide supervision support and debriefing to the peer educators.

A website that involved young women in the design, is currently under construction to assist with building access to relevant information for young women.

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Northern Assessment Referral and Treatment Team (Victoria)

Award: \$7,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Northern Assessment Referral and Treatment Team operates in the northern suburbs of Melbourne receiving referrals from three, 24 hour police stations – Reservoir, Epping and Mill Park. It is unique, as it is designed to:

- operate as an interdisciplinary team of community health professionals, with the police as its sole referring source
- respond to any issue by contacting the person referred within 24 hours
- respond to victims and offenders or any person in need of assistance.

The long term goals are to improve safety for members of the community and police by providing early referral to community services at a local level, to reduce recidivism and avoid an escalation of violence.

The concept has rationalised the number of referral pathways between police and community services, going from an ad-hoc, issue-by-issue approach. Providing a small team at a local level has enabled the building of trust and commitment to the program by operational police, and changed the culture of both police and community services.

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Three projects were awarded \$5,000 and Certificates of Merit

Dunsborough Leavers: 'management by event' (2005–06) (Western Australia)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

Annually, more than 4,000 school leavers visit Dunsborough to celebrate the conclusion of secondary exams – this celebratory period is called *Leavers*. Initially, young people congregated in the Central Business District (CBD) over a two-week period. By 2004, crowds grew to 4,000 and the incidence of damage, crime and violence increased.

In 2005, the State Government endorsed a *Leavers* five-point plan. A 'management by event' framework was also implemented to reduce the duration of *Leavers* and make celebrations safer for school leavers, the community and services by moving crowds from the CBD area.

Interagency/community groups delivered comprehensive interventions including an entertainment area, diversionary activities, transport, identification wristbands and support services. These are funded by the State Government and Shire of Busselton. The safety and wellbeing of school leavers and the community has improved since 2005, with:

- 81 percent reduction in arrests
- 45 percent reduction in property damage and clean-up costs
- strengthened partnerships between government and community

- improved perception of *Leavers* by the community and media
- the CBD free of crowds.

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Central Violence Intervention Program (South Australia)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

Men appearing before the Adelaide Family Violence Court on a domestic violence charge are offered the opportunity to be assessed for the Stopping Violence Group. This is a 24 week program offered through the Salvation Army, staffed by male and female social workers.

The Group has six modules of four weeks each, covering the major elements of violence and abuse in personal relationships. It offers the men the hope of peace in their children's homes and the chance of happiness. Their false assumption, that they are entitled to assert their dominance over their partners and children, is rigorously challenged and displayed as a distorting myth.

At the same time, a Women's Advocate and Children's Advocate give support, information, referrals and counselling to the partners of these men and their children. The Police and Correctional Services agencies also refer some men to the program, spreading the message widely.

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Family Violence Court Counselling Program (Victoria)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

The pilot project, a program for men who use violence against intimate family members is designed to increase the safety of women and children, and hold men accountable for their violent and abusive behaviour.

Through changes to legislation and the establishment of a Family Violence Court, specific powers have been given to this court in two pilot locations in Victoria, at Heidelberg and Ballarat. These courts have the power to serve a counselling order on a man where an intervention order has been heard and proven. The court can direct a man to attend a Men's Behaviour Change Program for up to 50 hours.

The Men's Behaviour Change Program is designed to challenge men on their violent and abusive behaviours and support them to find respectful ways of interacting with family members. The program challenges gender inequality in relationships and supports men to have equal relationships. To date the program has delivered to 24 groups of 12 men, with two facilitators.

The project provides support and assistance to aggrieved family members through counselling, group work and referral.

The project is funded through the Victorian Department of Justice. The long term goals include:

- supporting women and children to feel safe in their relationships and their communities
- reducing the level of family violence in the community
- engaging men in counselling at an alternative stage of their offending pattern
- engaging with men who would not readily seek counselling and support
- reducing the callouts made by police to repeat offenders
- supporting the police in applying for intervention orders
- integrating the service system to eliminate family violence
- empowering women and children.

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Nine projects were awarded \$2,000 and Certificates of Merit

‘But what can I do?’ Crime prevention myths, facts, tips and traps (South Australia)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

This innovative project produced 120 community radio crime prevention messages aimed at community members and providing:

- tips about crime prevention and community safety
- information on the myths and traps about crime in the media
- facts about how we can all play a part in preventing crime.

The project was funded by the National Community Crime Prevention Programme, with in-kind support from Radio Adelaide and the South Australian Institute of Justice Studies. The project has been described as ‘definitely “one-of-a-kind” and...at the forefront of breaking new ground in the search to supply and direct important information at a community level’.

The major outcome was the initial broadcasting of the messages between July 2006 and April 2007 on Radio Adelaide and streamed live on www.radio.adelaide.edu.au. The messages were reproduced onto 100 CD sets for ongoing use by other community radio stations and community and learning organisations.

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Young Women and Alcohol Project (South Australia)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

The project is an 18 month health promotion campaign which aims to increase the awareness of young people attending university (18–25 years) of the impact that drinking in risky ways may have on their wellbeing and safety and the safety of others. It has a focus on the attitudes and behaviour of young men in relation to young women and drinking, and on young women in relation to their levels of alcohol consumption, wellbeing and personal safety.

The project, led by the YWCA, is funded by the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation and works in consultation with Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia and university unions' women's officers, as well as other partners.

The project outcomes include:

- increased skills and knowledge of young women, professionals working with young people, licensed venues and other organisations
- increased community awareness of a range of messages and facts in relation to alcohol, violence, crime and safety.

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YARDS Program, incorporating an annual Right Turn Project (Australian Capital Territory)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

YARDS is a transition program for youth at risk. The initiative re-engages young people in educational and vocational opportunities in a supported peer environment. YARDS provides a 10 week transition program for people aged between 15 and 25 years, supporting them to access positive pathways, career transitions and learning options. Participants work with youth workers to address patterns of behaviour and lifestyle to help them move forward.

YARDS works collaboratively with young people and key community stakeholders to provide holistic sustaining support systems. Youth workers within an adult educational environment engage the participants in a positive peer community where they are assisted to identify their own developmental goals, and then supported to achieve these. Participants are supported to undertake CIT programs, for example in literacy and numeracy, adult Year 10 or specialised vocational training in areas of interest.

The Right Turn Program is an example of this, supporting high risk young people in achieving motor vehicle competencies. The young people receive youth worker support, a dedicated teacher and employment assistance. Through the program a donated vehicle is restored and donated to a worthy recipient.

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Hands Across Hobart – Refugee/Migrant Program (Tasmania)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

The program began due to a large number of refugee/migrant youth wandering the city streets on a Friday night, especially a large group (approx. 20) of young teenage girls, who were most vulnerable. They were approached by PCYC staff and encouraged into programs and developed into teams, with team managers and structured programs. Some supplementary funding then provided mixed activities with young people from Bridgewater in social and recreational activities. Volunteer coaches, youth workers, counsellors, service clubs other agencies became involved to provide a wide variety of support enabling the programs to progress, promoting a holistic health and welfare component to the development of the young people. Special work experience programs and referral into mainstream organisations took place, while maintaining the ownership of the programs by the young people. The young people have now developed into leadership roles, taking on additional roles, assisted by the volunteers and agencies.

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Community Safety Through Family Participation (aka Court Support Project) (Northern Territory)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Court Support Project helps young people and their families to understand the implications of involvement in the juvenile justice system and the behaviour which led to it. It provides skills and support on entry to the system, during involvement, and again on release, to help break the cycle of offending behaviour. This service takes referrals for young people up to the age of 18 years who are involved in the juvenile justice system. The service consists of two court support workers who case manage individual clients focusing on maintaining a holistic approach, involving family, the community and other support services. The project was initially funded by the Northern Territory's Office of Crime Prevention for two rounds. It then received support internally for a period of six months. Currently, the service is funded by the Attorney-General's Department through the National Community Crime Prevention Programme for 2007. To date, 66 young people have been supported through this project: 31 have successfully completed their justice orders and have exited from the service. Of these, six young people have re-entered the service. Currently, the two court support workers manage a case load of 35 young people.

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Rockhampton Skills Centre (Queensland)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Rockhampton Skills Centre was established to assist young people who, for whatever reason, have become, or are at risk of becoming, disengaged from mainstream education and/or society. Alternative teaching methods are employed to provide independent learning opportunities via a self-select program of activities. The aim of the centre is to facilitate the entry/re-entry of participants into a formal education environment or employment. Clients develop skills, knowledge and strategies to increase self esteem, reduce antisocial behaviour and improve their conflict resolution skills. The target group for the Skills Centre are people between the ages of 10 and 19, with a special emphasis on those between the ages of 15 and 17.

A community based collaborative model was developed to implement the project in an effort to provide comprehensive service delivery that addresses the clients' multiple needs and avoids duplication of services. Program activities on offer include, but are not limited to:

- school work to year 10 standard
- engine repair
- music
- metalwork and welding
- sewing
- literacy and numeracy
- woodwork
- cooking
- computing skills
- gardening
- sport
- cultural activities, art and craft, including leatherwork, pottery, jewellery making, weaving
- vocational guidance/job readiness/resume writing
- recreational activities

Learning is self-paced in a supportive environment. To a large extent, participants have ownership of the facility and they are responsible, with guidance from the workers, for the establishment of the rules and consequences for breaches of those rules.

The Skills Centre is not intended to be a replacement for schools or TAFE; rather a pathway for young people to enter/re-enter formal studies/training/employment. Therefore the programs and activities on offer are not accredited. Instead, the young people, after addressing problems, connecting with an activity or pastime and focusing on the future, are urged and assisted to gain employment or pursue formal qualifications to achieve their newfound goals.

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Eyes on the Street (Western Australia)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

Eyes on the Street is a centrally coordinated intelligence gathering initiative that encourages and enables local government and other agencies to identify suspicious people, vehicles and/or criminal activities and to report that information to police. It was developed and implemented to support crime prevention and reduce burglary in Western Australia. This program involves three main strategies:

- Training of key stakeholders, including local government, targeted commercial agencies, rangers, security officers and in-store loss prevention officers. Training covers how to recognise suspicious behaviour, events and/or persons, record the important information and pass it to police. The aim of this strategy is to increase the level of information and intelligence gathered and supplied to police to identify current/potential offenders and reduce crime.
- Apply and increase the visibility of the Eyes on the Street program. This is achieved through branding of vehicles with an Eyes on the Street logo. This aims to dissuade offenders and potential offenders by increasing the perceived risk of being seen and reported to police.
- Use of a marketing and advertising campaign to raise community awareness of the program. The aim is two fold – to increase the feeling of safety, and make offenders and potential offenders aware of the program so that when a branded vehicle is seen, the impact of deterrence is greater.

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Keeping Kids Out of Crime (Western Australia)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

Keeping Kids out of Crime is a crime prevention and education program targeting primary and secondary school students. It exposes the target group to some powerful anti-crime messages that make a dramatic and lasting impression on young audiences. Schools continually report that they experience a variety of issues with students making poor choices in regard to illegal behaviour, drug use and bullying. Keeping Kids out of Crime specifically addresses these issues.

The program aims to provide credible education in a classroom environment that deglamorises crime and highlights the negative consequences of choosing or being involved in a criminal lifestyle. A rehabilitated ex-offender presents the program, visiting schools to deliver a first-hand account of the negative and destructive consequences of criminal behaviour, and detail alternative and positive choices available to students.

Each session emphasises the need for communication, family relationships and education and drives home to students one central, compelling message: crime can destroy your life; you can make the right choices now.

To date, the program has been delivered to more than 6,800 students in more than 40 schools throughout Perth's metropolitan region.

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DVIRT – Domestic Violence Intervention Response Team (New South Wales)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

DVIRT is an information, referral, support and advocacy program for people who have experienced domestic violence (DV). DVIRT will provide assistance to victims following a police callout to a DV event, within a 24 to 48 hour timeframe where possible.

DVIRT aims to:

- increase the level of safety, support and information provided to victims of DV at a time of crisis
- decrease the number of repeat DV offences
- increase the number of victims attending court for ADVOs
- reduce the number of victims withdrawing from ADVO applications and increase the number of breach reports.

The outcomes from an independent evaluation of the program have been:

- a high number of referrals made to support services
- effective client case management for high risk victims, incorporating home visits
- positive intervention in child protection issues
- improved police intervention and understanding of DV through DVIRT inclusion in police training days
- inclusion in police operations to target high risk victims and offenders
- a decrease in repeat victims and offenders.

Contact: Kaye Spicer

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Three projects were awarded \$1,000 and Certificates of Merit

Logan Active Youth Spaces Strategy & Logan Youth Events: Fully Fest (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Active Youth Spaces Strategy was undertaken to provide appropriate opportunities to Logan young people to participate in regular physical activity. A top priority identified by young people revolved around activating youth spaces through events, particularly in low socioeconomic areas

Following this recommendation, Council initiated the Fully Fest events in 2006, which was funded by Council and Community Renewal. The events were developed to address the root causes of crime through a holistic, community-based, crime prevention approach that assists young people to develop respect, mutual

understanding and positive relationships. It connects at risk young people with youth advocates, mentors and service providers, while supporting them to actively participate in community life. The events facilitate networks and partnerships between and within community centres, youth services, Council, libraries, schools and churches. The events also succeed in skilling up local young people in interviewing techniques, marketing, filmmaking and event delivery.

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Annual Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Forum (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Forum is an annual, statewide event which aims to:

- highlight the good work that is being done by Indigenous people themselves, to end family violence
- share knowledge about strategies that could be used effectively by others in ending family violence
- promote opportunities for networking between workers in the field of Indigenous family violence prevention
- identify issues to be addressed and workshop/recommend strategies to do so.

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Carrie's on High/Carrie's Place (New South Wales)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Developed to increase the number of families in the area living independently, safe, free from abuse, addiction and reliance on government intervention, through facilitating a holistic program for women with or without dependent children from family violence backgrounds. The project provides a continuum of support, education and community development programs and is funded through DOCS, SAAP/CAP, AAS, Legal Aid and funds raised privately.

Long term goals are to prevent the occurrence of violent crime, family violence crisis situations, neglect and transgenerational violence, empowering women to take control over their own lives and prevent revictimisation of them and their children by breaking the cycle of violence.

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One project was awarded a State Medal for being a Meritorious Police Project

Police Business Security Kit (Victoria)

Award: State Police Medal

Development and targeted distribution of a proactive resource to reduce crime in and around small business environments. The BSK provides crime prevention and safety advice on topics which were identified as being most often requested by small business operators, successfully integrating crime prevention advice with occupational health and safety information.

There is a strong emphasis on the value of staff training/educational programs, reinforced by recommendations to draft and implement policies and practices. Encouragement is provided for business operators to implement staff reward and recognition policies and to involve staff in planning processes around safety.

Information offered includes advice on how to respond following an offence and encourages victims to report crimes to police, providing a 'what to expect' type of education. Useful victim referral and WorkSafe information are also provided.

The kit was first launched in Moorabbin in 2003 and public demand led to statewide release in 2006.

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Fourteen projects were awarded Certificates of Merit

Sutherland Shire Vandalism Prevention Programme (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Sutherland Shire Vandalism Prevention Programme targets the reduction of graffiti within the shire. This is achieved through the adoption and implementation of a combination of strategies including:

- rapid removal
- community education
- target hardening
- partnerships and information exchange
- offender apprehension and imposition of penalties.

The programme has enjoyed successes which are reflected in statistical information available from both Sutherland Shire Council and NSW Police. Apart from community recognition the programme has attracted interest from other local government areas as well as state government agencies. The objective of the project is to reduce incidence of graffiti and vandalism throughout the shire by:

- reducing the confidence vandals have, by instilling an increased fear that they will get caught

- increasing the capacity of the community to respond to graffiti
- making sites more difficult or unattractive to graffitiists and vandals
- increasing surveillance of sites
- apprehending vandals and bringing them to account for their crime/s.

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Boxed Art Project (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Boxed Art Project is an initiative of the City of Canterbury. This project is a large-scale community initiative that has engaged over 220 residents in the designing and painting of all 88 traffic signal boxes throughout the City of Canterbury. The traffic signal boxes are highly visible and widely distributed at traffic signal lights across the city.

This program was facilitated by a community artist who engaged the local community, collected local artwork designs from the community, and worked alongside the community in painting the boxes.

The long term goal for this project is to reduce and prevent graffiti and tagging of the traffic signal boxes. The Boxed Art Project has been, and will continue to be, effective in reducing the fear of crime by eliminating graffiti and the sense of lawlessness it can engender.

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Violence Prevention Program (South Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Violence Prevention Program (VPP) operates in a group format. Its goals include:

- learning alternatives to criminal behaviour
- understanding the effect of violent offending
- developing skills and attitudes for a more personally satisfying life
- successful non-offending integration in the community.

VPP outcomes have included:

- the VPP incorporated on individual offender plans
- training provided by Rehabilitations Programme Branch staff across Department of Corrective Services and Australia
- Rehabilitations Programme Branch staff support and advice sought by professional bodies
- needs of offenders addressed
- increased willingness of offenders to undertake intensive programs
- increased staff awareness regarding the value of high-intensity programs.

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Hoon Hotline (Victoria)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The City of Casey Hoon Hotline, established in response to community concerns of careless and irresponsible driving in and around local neighbourhoods, aims to engage the community in community safety, improve perceptions of safety and reduce the incidence of irresponsible driving.

Casey residents are encouraged to call 1800 18 HOON to report incidents of careless and irresponsible driving in their local streets. This information is collated into 'recidivist driver' and/or 'local hotspots' categories and submitted to Victoria Police for information and to plan targeted local intervention and enforcement.

The Casey Hoon Hotline was the first dedicated reporting mechanism for careless and irresponsible driving in Australia. Using the information collected, Council and the police are able to develop coordinated, targeted interventionist, enforcement and community education strategies in response to this major community safety concern. The Hoon Hotline also is an accessible vehicle for engaging Casey residents in community safety.

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Glenorchy Operation Bounce Back: tracking motor vehicle theft through community partnerships and engagement (Tasmania)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Glenorchy Operation Bounce Back project aimed to implement a multifaceted, highly visible community awareness and education campaign to reduce the incidence of motor vehicle theft in the Glenorchy local government area. The project consisted of a number of evidence based initiatives which:

- targeted identified hotspots of motor vehicle theft
- targeted owners of older, high risk motor vehicles
- promoted greater community awareness of how to reduce the risk of being a victim of motor vehicle theft
- engaged young people at risk of becoming involved in motor vehicle theft about the individual and social consequences of vehicle crime
- assisted victims of motor vehicle theft to get on with their lives
- actively engaged a broad range of individuals, community groups and organisations in a whole-of-community approach towards crime prevention and community safety.

The key performance indicators established for the project included:

- comparison of police data on motor vehicle theft at the commencement and completion of the project

- number of people accessing information through the community education campaign and the number of resources disseminated
- media coverage of initiatives
- number or partners actively engaged in the project
- level of engagement of young people in the project.

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Aggressive Behaviour Management for Healthcare Workers Training Program (Queensland)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Aggressive Behaviour Management (ABM) for Healthcare Workers training initiative is a series of programs designed to address the prevention, protection from, and treatment of, aggressive incidents within a health care environment.

The purpose of the training is to ensure the health and safety of patients and staff through increased clinical awareness of aggressive behaviour and improved staff confidence and efficacy in dealing with aggressive events. Participation provides the learners with confidence and options to deal with the spectrum of behaviours presenting within healthcare facilities and settings based on preventative methods rather than reactive physical methods. The course was designed for the healthcare industry with an emphasis on maintaining the caring environment, and is open to all healthcare workers. Due to the flexible nature of the training program, the duration of training may vary from a few hours up to five days, depending upon the risk assessment of the particular work area.

Queensland Health's services operate in a geographically diverse environment employing some 65,000 staff. To accommodate these factors, a decentralised training model is adopted and provides all 20 districts with locally accessible instructors. As at May 2007 there are 174 ABM instructors delivering training full and part time.

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ACT Property Crime Reduction Strategy 2006–07 (Australian Capital Territory)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The strategy pulls together a number of existing programs and important initiatives that were being driven, prior to the strategy's development, by individual imperatives, with no integrated approach to address high-volume property crime (burglary and motor vehicle theft). The ACT Crime Prevention Working Group's role is to identify crime priority areas in the ACT and to develop responses to address them. The Working Group monitors and reviews the strategy and a report card on the strategy's progress against the milestones in the action plan given to the government every year. The

strategy's progress is measured primarily by reduction targets set for burglary and motor vehicle theft. The targets are to reduce burglary by 10 percent and motor vehicle theft by 25 percent by 2007.

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Peacemaker Project MK11 (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Peacemaker Project is a holistic approach to the business of reforming society's attitudes to violence through greater understanding and education. The organisation runs a series of school- and community-based programs covering anti-violence strategies dealing with bullying, harassment, emotional management, resilience, responsibility and leadership, through nonviolent conflict resolution focusing on early intervention.

The Peacemaker Project is suitable for all students from kindergarten to Year 12, with a strong focus on youth at risk.

Using protective behaviour strategies and real stories and experiences, students develop awareness and skills to keep safe in a range of real life situations. Students learn to deal with signs or, feelings of anger as well as thought processes; this assists teachers' and students' skills for diffusing conflict and managing anger and stress.

Peacemaker also educates through the restorative justice process and engages students and teachers in adopting a conferencing approach to bullying and antisocial behaviour.

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Lives In Transition Program (Victoria)

Award: Certificate of Merit

LIT provides a comprehensive opportunity for prisoners nearing the end of their sentences to participate in a 14-week intensive transitional educational program. LIT aims to prepare prisoners for reintegration into the community. A qualified mentor offering post-release mentorship and other practical support is made available on release. The program's objectives are to reduce recidivism, engage the community (through volunteerism), and promote crime prevention (via school seminars using trained LIT graduates). Funding is sourced through donors and grants. The results to date have been most encouraging with, anecdotally, a marked decrease in reoffending by course graduates compared with overall prison population statistics. While many LIT graduates have availed themselves of post-release mentoring support, there is a need for an increased focus on developing this area, particularly in light of proposals to expand the program.

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The Safe and Caring Community Project (Victoria)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The S&CC project is an integrated whole-of-community approach to tackling all levels of bullying in all social contexts. The long-term goal of the project is to create systemic attitudinal and behaviour change across the Shire of Murrindindi. The project uses a community development model that employs strengths and no-blame approaches. Berry Street Victoria employs a 0.3 project worker to coordinate the project.

Seven sub-committees have enabled the following outcomes:

- employment of a family violence worker for Murrindindi
- an increase in reporting of family violence incidents and a system for tracking these incidents
- local sporting clubs holding an annual S&CC local derby with theme 'On field rivalry, off field harmony'
- eight cluster schools have trained 125 staff to embed social values within the schools' culture
- an action research project has been implemented involving community members in the development of a community values and codes of behaviour statement
- the Department of Justice has trained 12 community volunteers in mediation.

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No Name Calling, No Put Downs Week (Queensland)

Award: Certificate of Merit

No Name Calling, No Put Downs Week (an anti-bullying, suicide prevention project) was led by the Children's Advocacy and Resource Association with other government and nongovernment organisations operating through sponsorship, advocacy, networking, championing and promotion.

Given that many violent acts and crime incidents occur because of an inability to resolve conflict, the project aimed to make Townsville a safer place by reducing the intensity of verbal harassment and emotional abuse. It did this by: raising awareness about the effects of verbal abuse and emotional harm, particularly for children and young people; preventing bullying, harassment and suicide; and promoting wellbeing.

All were challenged to declare allegiance and take the pledge not to namecall for that week.

The strategy is as useful in the boardroom as in the playground, promoting discussion about the effects of namecalling, enabling victims and perpetrators to understand and acknowledge that all have the right to feel safe.

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Kairos Programs – Inside and Out (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The goal of Kairos is to reduce recidivism, help people make positive life choices and thus benefit communities. Through over 2,000 volunteers in regions around Australia, Kairos reaches out to men and women in prison, women affected by having someone in prison, and juvenile offenders.

This is achieved through 3–4 day programs (called short courses for inside and weekends for outside) followed by regular visits, which reinforce the information, by ongoing attendance and continued contact. Kairos is funded through volunteers, donations and others who feel led to support the work.

A study by the NSW Department of Corrective Services showed that as 'much as can be determined' inmates attending a Kairos program had a two-year reoffence rate 30 percent less than the average. Women who have attended a Kairos outside program not only move forward in their lives, but often come back on team to help others.

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Pad Up and Launch (Western Australia)

Award: Certificate of Merit

Skate parks are, in the main, used for lawful and recreational activities, but it is recognised that there is an element that uses the areas for antisocial and criminal behaviour. Pad Up and Launch is an intensive 13-week programme designed to have long term benefits by instilling a sense of ownership in local youth and the community to facilitate pride in, and positive use of, skate parks. A project officer is employed to attend the skate park after school hours and facilitate the development of Skate Park User Groups. These groups, with support from the project officer, build relationships between residents, businesses, and themselves to breakdown stereotypes and barriers. The project officer works with the young people to encourage the development of new skills, and encourage healthy lifestyles and a sense of belonging and positive interaction with the entire community.

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Crime Stoppers for Everyone (Victoria)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The multilingual program (MLP) aims to make culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups feel more at ease in dealing with police and providing information about crime.

A sense of security is fundamental to community wellbeing, but many CALD communities come from backgrounds where police are mistrusted. The MLP engages audiences' trust by disseminating three simple messages:

- Crime is NOT culturally sensitive...you can trust Australian police
- Crime Stoppers is the people's program...you don't have to give your name or become involved
- Crime happens in and affects every community...you have the power to combat it.

The MLP has increased calls to Crime Stoppers from CALD callers, because:

- a credible project manager (from a CALD group, and familiar with criminal justice issues) has been the driving force
- Crime Stoppers has been revamped to be more culturally sensitive and accessible to those from non-English speaking backgrounds.

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One project was awarded a Certificate for being a Meritorious Police Project

The 2007 Queensland Police Service/Ethnic Community Council Queensland Football Tournament (Queensland)

Award: Police Certificate

The Queensland Police Service/Ethnic Community Council Queensland (QPS/ECCQ) Football Tournament is a unique local sporting event which promotes interracial harmony and effectively addresses serious community safety issues related to potential violence among disparate community groups.

The aims of this inaugural QPS/ECCQ Football Tournament were to:

- emphasise the spirit of living in harmony in a multicultural society
- create an opportunity for different communities to socialise
- create an opportunity for new and emerging communities to engage with others
- give young people from different cultural backgrounds a fun and healthy day out.

Most importantly, the overall goal of the QPS/ECCQ Football Tournament was not to promote competition, but to encourage communities to share and work together to build a better society.

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