



ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008

**Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa
(CAPFSA)**

PERMANENT STAFF

Nelmarie du Toit:
Pumla Nyakaza:
Gio Adams

Volunteers: Dorothy Schulman
Rukea Abdroef

Part time: James Workman
Fernando Adams

A Campaign by the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa, a member of Safe Kids
Worldwide

PO Box 791, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7701, South Africa

Tel: +27 21 6855208 Fax: +27 21 6855331

NPO 003-467

PBO Number 18/11/13/4312



A. INTRODUCTION

The Mission of the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa (CAPFSA) is to promote optimal health and development of all children in South Africa. CAPFSA aims to reduce and prevent intentional and unintentional injuries through research, education, environmental change and recommendations for legislation. To achieve this we work in co-operation with government, industry, non-governmental and community based organisations, community groups and individuals.

CAPFSA believes that every child has a right to grow and flourish in a safe environment without the threat of being hurt

2007/2008 has once again been a very busy year for the Centre The Foundation continued to establish and maintain good working relations with various departments, organisations and individuals concerned with child safety, these include the Department of Health, Emergency Services, the Medical Research Council, Community Safety, UCT Children's Institute and others. In addition, CAPFSA also operated as a resource centre for the general public, and for those involved in preventative health education and environmental planning.

CAPFSA was fortunate to receive a volunteer, Dorothy Schulman. Ms Schulman was a nurse at Red Cross Hospital and after her retirement in 2007, she decided to join CAPFSA on part-time basis as a volunteer.

B. RESEARCH

The Childsafe database serves the purpose of a surveillance system on childhood injuries. The database has been systematically analysed for a large number of clinical and epidemiological studies relating to childhood injuries.

Our Foundation had a backlog of two years injury data that had to be captured on the database. With funding from Safekids Worldwide we were able to reduce the backlog to one year. This was made possible by the assistance of volunteers Fernando Adams and James Workman in capturing data.

Since 1992 the Foundation continued to update and gather available statistics on childhood injuries and deaths presenting at the Red Cross Children's Hospital Trauma Unit. This database currently has approximately 130 000 childhood injuries recorded.

The unit received numerous requests for Trauma Unit injury data from medical students, nurses, educators, policymakers, research bodies, other injury prevention stakeholders and the media.

Various data analysis took place over the past year. Herewith follows some examples.

OBSERVATIONAL SURVEY OF SAFETY BELT AND CHILD RESTRAINT USE - CAPE TOWN – SOUTH AFRICA

During the week 26 – 30 March 2007 CAPFSA together with the Road Safety Management did an observational survey at the main entrance of the Red Cross Children's Hospital in Cape Town. Observations were also done at the crèche on the Red Cross Children's Hospital premises.

The aim of this observational survey was to observe how many adults and children are restrained appropriately and to utilize the results as part of an ongoing Seatbelt Campaign during and after the First UN Global Road Safety Week.

In vehicles where staff was travelling in as the driver or passenger seatbelts were not used by 58% of drivers. 61% of front passengers did not wear a seatbelt and 82% of rear passengers did not wear a seatbelt.

This observational study showed shocking results regarding the poor buckling-up of adults as well as children. These results were made available to staff, visitors at the hospital and also to the parents who drop off children at the crèche during the First Global Road Safety Week in April. CAPFSA will continue to utilize this information to lobby for more ongoing safety measures and stricter enforcement with emphasis on retraining children. Good laws, proper enforcement and education are essential to reduce child passenger injuries.

9th World Conference on Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion, Merida, Mexico, March 15-18, 2008

Sebastian van As and Nelmarie du Toit attended the 9th World Conference on Injury Prevention in Mexico



This latest world conference in injury prevention was hosted by the Mexico National Institute for Public Health and co-sponsored by the Mexico Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization.

The conference was attended by more than 1100 participants and featured over 300 oral presentations and another 200 poster presentations. The overall conference theme was globalization, and several presentations highlighted this. Other themes included: child abuse and maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner violence, suicide and suicidal behaviour, workplace violence, child injuries, road traffic injuries, occupational injuries, sports and recreational injuries and trauma care services.

Presentations by CAPFSA at this conference were:

- Observational survey of safety belt and child restraint use – Cape Town – South Africa
- Dog bites in children

Publications

Peer reviewed Publications

-“Child abuse and our Society” Letter. Booysen N, Brown C, Collison N, Ginger F, Hatherill S, Hendricks S, Loleka N, Karp L, Pieters , Slabbert L, van As S. SAMJ 2007; 97(3):150-2.

-“Dog bite injuries in children; a review of data from a South African paediatric trauma unit.” J Dywer, T Douglas, AB van As, SAMJ 2007; 97(8):597-600.

-“Severe infant abuse: the unfortunate side effect of human evolution?”
Van As AB, Fieggen G, Tobias P. SA Journal of Child Health 2007;1(2):54-8.

-“Femur fractures in infants” AB van As, SR Garach. SAMJ 2008 98(1):23-4

- “A prospective study of significant non-fatal injuries in small children in Cape Town: Lessons for prevention” Van As AB, Verhage A, Moore SW. African Journal of Paediatric Surgery 2007; 4(1):7-12
- “Children, Violence and the Media” van As S, Ramanjam V. SAJCH 2008;2(1): 14
- “Fracture patterns in non-accidentally injured children at the Red Cross Children’s Hospital” AB (Sebastian) van As, Richard Craig, James Franklin, Sudeshni Naidoo. South African Journal of Child Health 2007; 1(3): 102-105.

Chapters in Books

- “Childhood Injuries” Kibel S, du Toit N. Child Health for All, 4th Edition, 2007, Chapter 45, pp384-390.

Other contributions/reports (e.g. policy research documents)

- Protocol for Management of Aspirated Foreign Bodies in Children for the Western Cape (2007).
- Contributor: Safe Kids Worldwide: Clarity, Capacity and Credibility. 2007-2010 Strategic Plan.

Presentations

- Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, “Casting a spotlight on Survivors of Armed Violence” Geneva, 2007. “The effects of war on children in Africa”
- International Safe Schools Conference, Sedona, Arizona, USA, 2007. “School violence in South Africa”. (Key Note)
- Regional Meeting for the WHO World Report on Child and Adolescence Injury Prevention in Cairo, 2007-06-18 “Recommendations for the Reducing Global Childhood Injuries”
- Emergency Medicine in the Developing World Cape Town, 2007 “Non accidental injuries in children”
- SafeKids Worldwide International Conference, 2007, Washington, United States of America. “Child Accident Prevention in South Africa” and “Challenges in Child Accident Prevention in South Africa”
- International Society for Violence and Injury Prevention Board Meeting, Washington, 2007
- 4th Regional Asian Conference on Safe Communities, “Incorporating Global Thinking, Cultivating Local Strategy” October 2007, Bangkok, Thailand. 4 Papers “Data Mining the CAPFSA Database as part of injury prevention in South Africa”; “Review of dog bites in small children”; “Safe Candle project in South Africa”; “Observational survey of Safety Belt and Child Restraint use in Cape Town, South Africa.”
- Paediatric Surgical Seminar, University of Kebangsaan Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur and Malacca, 2007 Malaysia “Prevention of Burns in Africa”
- “University of Cape Town School of Child and Adolescent Health Research day, 2007, Cape Town. 4 Papers: “Candle Project”; “Dogbites in Children”; “Data Mining as part of Injury Prevention”; “Child Passenger Safety”
- Workshop: Safe travelling of pre-schoolers in vehicles(2007) Paarl “Kids, cars & carnage”

- Provincial Department of Safety And Security (Min L Ramatlakane) (2007) Cape Town
"Briefing on Child Abuse, Background, Physical and Sexual Abuse and Government Policies"

-"University of Cape Town School of Child and Adolescent Health Research day, 2007,
"Candle Project". Nyakaza P.

-"University of Cape Town School of Child and Adolescent Health Research day, 2007,
"Observational survey of safety belt and child restraint use". Du Toit N, Nyakaza P, van As AB.

-"Dog bites in small children". Dwyer, du Toit, Nyakaza, Fisher, van As. 9th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, Merida, Mexico, March 15-18, 2008.

-"Observational survey of safety belt and child restraint use – Cape Town, South Africa". Du Toit N, van As AB. 9th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, Merida, Mexico, March 15-18, 2008.

C. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The following is a summary of some of the methods used by CAPFSA to reach the public at large:

	2006/2007	2007/2008
Educational leaflets distributed	23 712	24180
Lectures and workshops	38	42
Exhibitions & Open days	6	5
Training courses	1	3
Radio programmes	31	25
Television programmes	3	1
Newspaper & Magazine articles	41	37
CAPFSA Reporter (Newsletter)	4000	4000

The Foundation received numerous requests to present child safety education initiatives. More than 2000 individuals were reached through talks, workshops, lectures and training. The following are some examples of talks and workshops that were conducted this annual year.

Institution/Firm	Target Group	Community	Presenter
Nursing Education Red Cross Hospital	Nurses	Red Cross Children's Hospital	Pumla Nyakaza
Lansdowne ECD	ECD Sector	Lansdowne	Pumla Nyakaza
Meerendal Pre-school	Pre-schoolers	Pinelands	Pumla Nyakaza
Red Cross Children's Hospital	Parents	Red Cross Hospital	Pumla Nyakaza
Zanokhanyo Home Management Training Centre	Unemployed women-home managers	Khayelitsha	Pumla Nyakaza
Burns Training	Nurses	Red Cross Hospital	Pumla Nyakaza
Heideveld Community Clinic	Parents	Heideveld	Pumla Nyakaza
Holy Cross School	Children	Red Cross Hospital	Pumla Nyakaza
Lookout Hill Hall	Community	Harare	Pumla Nyakaza
UCT	Medical staff	Red Cross Hospital	Pumla Nyakaza

Learn not to burn curriculum:

The Learn not to burn curriculum – South African version has been finalised and is currently being piloted. Once finalised it is envisaged that this programme will be made available to pre-schools through the World Burn Foundation – South Africa.

Training Courses

(i) Health & Safety Training Course for Early Childhood Development Centers (ECD)

In 2007 the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa (CAPFSA) trained 40 individuals from various ECD facilities – creches and educare centres in various communities such as Wynberg, Lansdowne, Sybrand Park, Wetton, Claremont and Rondebosch.

The CAPFSA Health and Safety Course aims to meet the health and safety needs of children in various early childhood development facilities. After the course, delegates are expected to implement information in the creches and preschools that they work in and to meet the minimum criteria before receiving a certificate. These candidates after completing the course had to implement theory that they had learnt during the three days into practice by developing a Health & Safety Plan at various child care facilities where they work.

Twenty three Educare teachers met the minimum standards after assessment of their facilities and received their Health & Safety certificates during CAPFSA's Annual General Meeting. These educare teachers who received their certificate completed their three day Health & Safety Training in May 2007 and August 2007 respectively.

We would like to thank the Protea Sub-Council of the City of Cape Town for making funding available to do this training.

CHILD SAFETY TRAINING FOR UNEMPLOYED WOMEN AT ZANOKHANYO

Since the beginning of 2006, CAPFSA has been conducting child safety sessions for the trainees of Zanokhanyo on monthly basis. Zanokhanyo-which means bringing light is a project of Catholic Welfare & Development based in the informal settlement of Harare, Khayelitsha . Zanokhanyo provides an intensive five weeks practical and life skills training to unemployed women with the hope that they will find and hold jobs in the market. It is in their life skills modules where CAPFSA comes in and teaches them about childhood accident prevention

During the annual financial period 2007-2008 Childsafe has managed to equip/train more than two hundred (200) women with information on child safety. This child safety information is very crucial as it will open doors for these unemployed women as they will be marketable in the job market especially in domestic fields like au pairs, nannies or even for their own home environments.

FIRST UN GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK 23-29 APRIL 2007

Annually, between 200-300 children with injuries as passengers are treated at the Trauma Unit of the Red Cross Children's Hospital alone, in Cape Town. Of these children, between 84-87% are not restrained in any way. This is an average of 18 children per month that are treated at this hospital for injuries sustained while a passenger.

As there is a great need to educate parents and caregivers on child passenger safety in motor vehicles the Foundation's focus of the week was to create awareness on the risks associated with not restraining children in motor vehicles and also make information available on the correct and safe restraint methods. CAPFSA targeted the Red Cross Children's Hospital (RXH) in Cape Town, staff and parents visiting this hospital.

The following activities took place:

- Development and distribution of an educational pamphlet on Child Passenger safety, distribution of 5000 pamphlets.
- Pre-week observation of cars entering Red Cross Children's Hospital and at hospital crèche to determine seatbelt and child restraint use.
- Three exhibitions/displays at the Red Cross Children's Hospital on Buckling up Children. More than 6000 staff and visitors moved past the displays.
- Three educational workshops with staff and parents of the hospital crèche.
- Screening of passenger safety video at waiting areas in the hospital.
- Educational programme with pre-schoolers at the hospital crèche.
- Extensive media coverage of buckling up, before, during and after the week.
- Distribution of educational resources on child passenger safety to 35 pre-and primary schools in the surrounding communities of the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

D. CHILD SAFETY MONTH –AUGUST 2007

1. CHILD SAFETY MONTH WORKSHOPS

During **CHILD SAFETY MONTH** the Child Accident Prevention Foundation (CAPFSA) and other stakeholders such as Western Cape Departments of Health (Health Promotion: Province and MDHS), Community Safety (Traffic Safety), Social Services, The Crime, Violence & Injury Lead Programme (CVILP) - Medical Research Council and the Paraffin Safety Association of Southern Africa set out to raise awareness and promote actions that would assist in reducing the unacceptably high rate of childhood injuries and deaths.

The theme of the month was '**Watch that child; Children are not small adults!**'

The aims of Child Accident Prevention Month were

- To improve public understanding of the developmental stages of babies and small children under 7 years in relation to the main risks of injury to each age group.
- to mobilise stakeholders across relevant sectors in high risk communities

Two workshops took place and targeted community organisations, government and NPO stakeholders engaged in the care of children less than 7 years. These workshops were held at the Red Cross Children's Hospital and in Khayelitsha.

Issues focused on in the workshops were the context and the understanding of accidental injuries, child development and associated injury risks and effective parenting.

Resolutions taken at these workshops will now be implemented to assist with child injury prevention initiatives in communities.

2. HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING COURSE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (ECD'S)

Another Health and Safety Course was held on the 22, 23 & 24 of August 2007 as part of the activities of the Child Safety Month (August). Twenty-two educare teachers from 14 crèches and day care centres within the Protea Sub council areas (Claremont, Plumstead, Wetton, Kenwyn, Lansdown, and Rondebosch East) received the training. The three-day training course was held in the Johnson & Johnson Hall at the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

CAPFSA managed to present this course through funding made available by the Protea Sub Council (CITY OF CAPE TOWN) and CAPFSA are really grateful for this funding.

A special thank you also goes to other specialists outside our organization who assisted with the facilitation of some sessions during this course. These individuals include. Linda Jonker from Red Cross Children's Hospital, Nursing Education (IMCI Community component), Andrew Moore from the Medical Education Centre (Paediatric Emergency Care), Desmond Johnson from the City of Cape Town Fire Services (Fire Safety and Evacuation) and Abigail Golding from RAPCAN (Identifying and referring Child Abuse).

3. GROWING SAFELY POSTER

Very young children are naturally curious. Children learn about the world by physically interacting with the things around them. They like to touch, feel, and explore. As a result of these characteristics, they are at high risk for accidents and injuries such as burn poisoning, drowning, falls and road accidents.

We as adults care givers and parents have to take responsibility and make sure that our children learn, play and grow up in a safe environment without the threat of being hurt.

With the support of Johnson & Johnson and the Department of Health (MDHS) Health Promotion, an A1 sized full colour poster was launched during child safety month. This poster is available for educational purposes and focuses on 5 developmental stages of children under the age of 7 years and relates to the prevention of the most common injuries.

Copies of this poster can be obtained from the Child Accident Prevention Foundation, Red Cross Children's Hospital.

This poster also received a Media Award at the World Conference on Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion in Mexico.

4. COMMUNITY SAFETY and CAPFSA partner to focus on passenger safety for kids

At the Red Cross Children's Hospital alone, approximately 20 are treated for injuries sustained in motor vehicle collisions every month. Eighty percent (80%) of these injured children were not buckled up or restrained in the vehicle in any way at all.

The Directorate Road Safety Management (Department of Community Safety) in collaboration with the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa (CAPFSA) conducted surveys at approximately twenty day-care centers in the Cape Metropole and Paarl areas, to monitor how often children use child restraints in vehicles. (Results available on request).

Two workshops were hosted at the Drakenstein Municipality in Paarl and at the Red Cross Children's Hospital where the findings of the observations were presented to targeted pre-schools and other role-players. At these workshops resolutions were taken to address the unacceptably low seatbelt/restraint-wearing rate. Some valuable inputs and contributions were made address future interventions towards safe traveling of children in vehicles.

Various safety activities and interventions will be implemented at the various targeted pre - schools and day care centers to improve the safe traveling of children to these facilities.

5. SAFER CANDLE PROJECT

Numerous demonstrations have taken place at Red Cross Children's Hospital on the Safer Candle Project. To date approximately 2000 safer candle jars have been distributed to families.

6. MEDIA

Press releases and statements were sent to the media on a regular basis. The media served as a very important tool and enabled CAPFSA to reach out to various communities with information regarding accident prevention. The media have always been of great assistance to CAPFSA. Regular requests were received from publications for articles on child safety.

Some examples of the media coverage we received:

Date & Time	Agency	Topic	Staff Member
24.04.07	Bush Radio	Buckle up	N. du Toit
09.05.07	Radio 786	Training course	N. du Toit
23.05.07	Radio 786	Global Road Safety	N. du Toit
12.06.07	Radio 786	General safety	N. du Toit
26.07.07	SAFM	Child Safety Month	N. du Toit
27.07.07	Bush Radio	Child Safety Month	N. du Toit
15.10.07	Cape Times	Children, Safety & Prevention	A.B van As
03.11.07	Cape Argus	Keeping children safe is everyone's duty	A.B van As
14.02.08	Heart 104.9	Candle Safety	N. du Toit
01.03.08	Reader's Digest	Is your child's school as safe as you think?	A.B van As
04.03.08	People's Post	Candle Safety	N. du Toit
12.03.08	RSG	School Violence	N. du Toit

E. WEBSITE

The CAPFSA website (www.childsafe.org.za) serves as an important mouthpiece and educational tool for people interested in Child Injury Prevention.

We would like to thank Neal Meaker from Alton Stanley Agencies – A web Design and CD Creation Company for the continued support of and creation of our website.

H. NEWSLETTER (CAPFSA Reporter)

CAPFSA printed and distributed four issues (4000 copies) of the CAPFSA Reporter Newsletter. The Reporter is CAPFSA's medium for conveying safety information and current local and international initiative on child safety and injury prevention to the public. Electronic copies of the Newsletter have also been made available to a wider target of health professionals, educators, clinics and hospitals and members of the public.

I RESOURCE CENTRE

The CAPFSA Resource Centre is based in the Staff Education Centre at the Red Cross Children's Hospital. This resource contains a collection of local and international resources on child injury prevention and intentional and unintentional injuries, which have been collected over years.

Resources such as videos, slides, posters, brochures, activity sheets and lay and academic articles are available for use by the public. During the past year, users included staff from various hospitals, students from tertiary institutions, scholars, parents, non-governmental and community based organisations, various government departments and other interested stakeholders.

We developed and printed a new resource leaflet, "Buckle up the Kids". This important leaflet is an educational tool for parents on the different stages of restraining children in motor vehicles and also shows the dangers when not buckling children up. We would like to thank Safekids Worldwide and Johnson & Johnson for assisting with the funding to print this leaflet as part of the Global Road Safety Campaign.

The following educational leaflets are available from CAPFSA

- Prevent Drowning

- Prevent Burns
- Prevent Poisoning
- Prevent Sexual Molestation
- A Safer Home for the whole family
- Prevent Choking and Suffocation
- Buckle up

J ADVOCACY AND LEGISLATION

CAPFSA participates wherever possible in campaigns and is involved in lobbying around issues of child rights and injury prevention as they arise and become relevant.

Our involvement in legislative advocacy varies according to the development of state policies, programmes and legislation. We participate in the legislative process in South Africa by making submissions regarding new legislation while it is still in bill form.

Media

Extensive media coverage on child injury prevention over the past year has assisted greatly in getting safety messages and prevention information out to important role players and the general public. We are grateful to all media in partnering with CAPFSA this past year and thank them for their valuable assistance in advocating for child safety.

National Health

CAPFSA/Safekids SA has been asked by the National Department of Health to assist with the evaluation and compilation of a National Unintentional Strategy for South Africa that indicates that CAPFSA has valuable information and skills that will assist in this process.

Newsletter

CAPFSA reporter – 4000 hard copies distributed. The newsletter was also distributed electronically to more than 2000 individuals and organisations. The CAPFSA Reporter is an important advocacy tool to promote child safety and injury prevention to communities and individuals in South Africa.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all individuals, companies, organizations and departments that supported CAPFSA's work both financially and with other donations during 2007/.2008