

What are we doing for child safety and injury prevention

- ◆ Research
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Advocacy, policy and legislation

Research

- ◆ Since 1991, Childsafe (CAPFSA) has systematically kept a computerised database of all injured children presenting to the Red Cross Children's Hospital Trauma Unit in Cape Town. This database serves as the major resource for childhood injuries in South Africa.
- ◆ Academic articles on injury data.
- ◆ Academic presentations.
- ◆ Feeding evidence-based information to media.



Education and Information

Education and promotion of public awareness is achieved through:

- ◆ Leaflets, posters, booklets, videos, exhibitions, programmes for children and adults, books, media,
- ◆ Lectures, workshops and training courses,
- ◆ Community based prevention programmes,
- ◆ Resource Centre at the Red Cross Children's Hospital Cape Town, Rondebosch, Cape Town.

Legislation and Advocacy

Campaigns

- ◆ Childsafe participates wherever possible in campaigns and lobbies around issues of child rights and injury prevention as they arise and become relevant.

Legislative advocacy

- ◆ Involvement in legislative advocacy varies according to the development of state policies, programmes and legislation.
- ◆ Participation in the legislative process in South Africa by making submissions to new legislation while it is still in bill form.
- ◆ Childsafe furthermore makes recommendations for legislation and specifications on products that are used by children.

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childsafe
KEEP KIDS FREE FROM HARM

If we take the health of children in South Africa seriously, we should prevent accidents rather than treat injuries.



Childsafe South Africa is a campaign of Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa (CAPFSA) and a member of Safe Kids Worldwide.



Balancing caution with adventure
CHILD ACCIDENT PREVENTION
FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
(CAPFSA)



Vision

To create a safer world for children

Mission

To promote optimal health and development of all children in South Africa.

Childsafe South Africa aims to reduce and prevent intentional and unintentional injuries of all severity 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.



Childsafe believes all children have a right to grow and flourish in a safe environment without the threat of being hurt.

In 1978 the vision of the Chief Surgeon of the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital in Cape Town encompassed the establishment of the Child Safety Centre in response to the massive number of child injuries encountered in the Trauma Unit of the Red Cross Children's Hospital. The Child Safety Centre was formed and from the beginning the Centre focused on education, research and advocacy. Support from the Department of Paediatric Surgery was essential in the development of the Child Safety Centre.

By 1987 the Centre had grown and it was officially constituted as the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa (CAPFSA). In 2008, CAPFSA was officially changed to Childsafe South Africa.

FACTS ON CHILDHOOD INJURIES

- ◆ Child injuries are becoming a global public health problem.
 - ◆ Annually, 8000 children between the age of 1 year and 14 years die as a result of unintentional injuries, which could have been prevented.
 - ◆ The three main leading causes of child and adolescent deaths are motor vehicle accidents, burns and drowning.
 - ◆ Injuries are a leading cause of death in children and South Africa is no exception.
 - ◆ A child in South Africa has 25 times more chance to end up in hospital compared to United Kingdom.
 - ◆ Approximately 80% of child injuries occur in or around the home while at play.
- (Source: WHO)

Childhood injury in South Africa is an unrelenting public health problem of epidemic proportions. Each day more than 10 children under the age of fifteen years die of road traffic crashes, drowning, burns, poisoning, violence and other physical hazards present in an environment created by adults.



Injuries destroy the health, lives and independence of thousands of children.



Most accidents can be predicted and prevented