

Concurrent D: Community Violence

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TOWARDS A FUTURE WITHOUT VIOLENCE: A COMMUNITY VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGY FOR THE NORTH METROPOLITAN AREA OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Background The Injury Control Council of WA (ICCWA) and the North Metropolitan Area Health Service (NMAHS) formed a partnership in 2009 to address concerns around community violence in the North Metropolitan Area of Western Australia expressed by both agencies as well as community members.

Objectives Facilitate collaboration to develop, promote and implement strategies to reduce community violence in the North Metropolitan Area of Western Australia.

Method ICCWA developed and utilised a Community Violence Prevention Project Model based on a sustainable community development approach. Aspects include literature reviews, stakeholder engagement and the establishment of a reference group. Ongoing consultation with stakeholders was integral to ICCWA's approach.

Outcome Coordination and delivery of a Community Violence Forum 2010 involving over 100 key stakeholders.

- Completion of 'scoping project' to assess gaps in community violence service areas and priorities for programme implementation.
- Development and publication of a comprehensive Strategy for the Prevention of Community Violence across the North Metropolitan Area.
- Commenced the development of local action planning with a selected community.

Significance The development of this Community Violence Prevention Strategy represents a unique collaboration between ICCWA, a peak non-government organisation and the NMAHS. Involvement from politicians, WA Police, health professionals and the broader community supports the framework that this strategy provides for ongoing work to prevent community violence.