

“I am greatly encouraged by the progress we have made with our community partners to prevent injuries and save lives in Hawai‘i.”

Eric Tash, Program Manager

www.nogethurt.hawaii.gov
January 2010



INJURY PREVENTION IN HAWAI‘I

A Brief History



Injury Prevention in Hawai'i—A Brief History



'84 As part of the Governor's Conference on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, the Director of the Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) appoints an Accident Prevention and Injury Control Task Force (APICTF) to determine how Hawai'i can best achieve its 1990 health objectives. The task force recommends an Injury Prevention and Control Program (IPCP) be established as a "focal point" for state-level injury prevention activities.

'88 Members of APICTF lobby the Director of Health to establish an injury program in the Department of Health. A paper titled *Injury Prevention and Control System for the State of Hawai'i* justifies the need for a program.

'89 With funding from the Legislature, the Director of Health establishes IPCP as a program within the Health Promotion and Education Division to coordinate and support efforts by government, community, and private organizations to reduce injury morbidity and mortality throughout the state.

'90 IPCP begins with two state-funded positions for a program manager and support staff. The Injury Prevention Advisory Committee (IPAC), formerly APICTF, is created to support IPCP in its efforts to raise awareness about injury prevention as a public health problem and build the field of injury prevention in Hawai'i.

'91 The Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition, the Hawai'i Safety Helmet Coalition, and the Hawai'i Firearms Control Coalition are established.

'93 IPCP hires an epidemiologist, a childhood injury prevention coordinator and support staff through the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG).

'94 The Hawai'i State Department of Transportation (DOT) grants IPCP Federal Highway Funds to address child passenger safety.

'97 A traffic safety coordinator is hired with PHHSBG funds.

'98 The Hawai'i State DOT increases the allocation of Federal Highway Funds by 187% to address child passenger safety. IPCP receives an Emergency Medical Services for Children in Hawai'i and Alaska Collaboration Grant to prevent suicide and suicide attempts among Hawaiian youth.

'99 The Hawai'i State DOT more than doubles IPCP's Federal Highway Funds to support child passenger safety activities and an evaluation of the state's alcohol-impaired driving problem.

'00 The Hawai'i State DOH moves IPCP to the newly titled Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch. Statewide funding from the Hawai'i State DOT specific to child passenger and pedestrian safety increases by 65%.

'01 The Emergency Medical Services for Children grant funds an injury prevention coordinator and support staff to integrate primary injury prevention into the EMS system.

'03 IPCP receives a Walkable Communities grant through the Healthy Hawai'i Initiative and hires a project coordinator. IPCP is awarded a CDC Core State Injury Surveillance and Program Development grant (3-year) that funds a research statistician. PHHSBG funding doubles. The Fall Prevention Consortium is established. IPCP and IPAC produce *Injury Prevention in Hawai'i: Status and Progress Review* to highlight injury prevention efforts since 1990.

'05 IPCP and IPAC facilitate a community-based process to develop and produce the *Hawai'i Injury Prevention Plan 2005-2010* that outlines recommendations for eight injury areas.

'06 CDC awards IPCP a 5-year Integrated Core Injury Prevention grant that allows IPCP to hire a project coordinator. The state funds a suicide prevention coordinator and planner position. Funding from the PHHSBG increases an additional 61%. The Suicide Prevention Task Force is established.

'07 The Hawai'i State Legislature allocates \$100,000 for both FY 2008 and FY 2009 to address youth suicide.

'08 IPCP wins a 3-year, \$1.5 million grant (\$500,000 each year) from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to continue efforts to prevent suicide and suicide attempts among youth. Funds are used for gatekeeper training programs that teach community members to identify youth at risk for suicide and refer them to appropriate services. IPCP receives the national Prevention Program Achievement Award from the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association.

'10 IPCP and IPAC develop the *Hawai'i Injury Prevention Plan 2011-2015* to strengthen injury prevention efforts across the state.

