

New Zealand Fire Service

Fire Awareness and Intervention Programme (FAIP)

4 November, 2007
Fire Risk Management Conference

Fire fighters Scholarship Report 2010

Prepared by Rachael Lind

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The Fire Fighters Scholarship was established to give fire fighters and com centre staff the opportunity to travel overseas and undertake research or study for up to one month to gain first hand knowledge and experience that would be of benefit to the New Zealand Fire Service

The Fire fighters scholarship is selected by a committee with a representative from the following groups:

- A New Zealand Fire service Commission member
- A representative of the National Commander
- A representative of the New Zealand Professional Fire Fighters Union
- A representative of the New Zealand Fire Service Superannuation Scheme
- A representative of the New Zealand Fire fighters Welfare Society

Introduction

Name: Rachael Lind
Position: Senior Firefighter, Blue watch
Station: New Plymouth

About myself: I have been employed by the New Zealand Fire Service for over 7 years. During this time I have been involved with the following activities:

- SFF Volunteer Taps coach
- QF Exam writer and marker
- FAIP Practitioner
- FAIP Management team member
- FAIP National Trainer
- An educational background, teaching in a Tertiary Institute for 10 years before joining the Fire Service.

I have been an active member of the FAIP National Management team for 3 years. Duties which include rewriting of national resources, coordinating the national FAIP practitioner training course, communicating to practitioners/coordinators at a national level, organisation of National FAIP Annual Conference.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank the New Zealand Fire Service Commission for providing me with the opportunity to gain an international understanding of fire setting trends.

A special thank you goes to the following people who were instrumental in not only the pre planning of my trip, but also for their generous hospitality during my research trip

- Jerry Dimillo - Public Education Officer and Fire Setter Program Director, Maine
- Rebecca Porter, Joe Tondorf and the team at Brandon Residential Treatment Centre for Troubled Boys, MA
- Sgt Paul Zipper - Massachusetts State Police - Haverhill Fire and Explosion Unit, MA
- Dr. Brad Jackson - Children's Hospital, Denver
- Judy Okulitch - Oregon Office of State fire Marshal, Oregon

My thanks also extends to the FAIP National Management Team for their never ending support and encouragement.

Finally John Nichols and the crews at New Plymouth Fire station

Aims and Objectives

Due to my intense involvement in the FAIP (Fire Awareness Intervention Program) within the NZFS, research indicated that some key areas of our program needed to be enhanced.

Key Objectives for Research to include:

- Resources – in particular education section of the intervention, our resources need expanding, it is important we are up to date with global trends in fire education techniques.
- Interagency collaboration – there is a need to ensure our reporting protocols with outside agencies are formalised. Research will include reporting mechanisms, safe practices and external relationships.
- Reporting and recording systems internally – we have recently updated our recording systems; we need to ensure storage of information is adequately achieved and our practitioners are gathering the correct information during an intervention.
- Troubled youth – International trends when dealing with troubled youth, are we protecting them (youth) and their families adequately with our reporting and referring.
- Group Interventions – investigate the possibility of carrying out group interventions (international trends)

My proposed travel would take me to five states in USA - Portland Maine, Worcester Massachusetts, Denver Colorado, Portland Oregon and Santa Monica California.

Overview of the New Zealand Fire Service Fire Awareness and Intervention Programme (FAIP)

The Fire Awareness & Intervention Programme (FAIP) is a consequences-based education programme that caters for all children and young people with fire lighting tendencies aged 17 years and under.

The program is usually delivered over several weeks by a trained firefighter called an FAIP Practitioner and is generally done in a home setting.

Content and delivery varies according to the age and maturity of the child, FAIP practitioners use education and behavior modification resources to challenge and correct the child's negative fire lighting behavior. The programme is strictly confidential, free, and voluntary (except where referred by the police or court).

Practitioners work with the parents / caregivers and the child to help them develop an awareness of fire safety issues in the home and the community. The aim of the programme is to teach the child a greater respect for fire and the potential consequences of deliberately lit fires.

FAIP receives more than 700 referrals of children and young people annually. The recidivism rate once a child has completed the programme is around 2% (no known re-offending within 12 months).

The NZFS has built up partnerships with external agencies to ensure the successfulness of the FAIP programme.

Referrals are received from:

- Parents over the phone
- Firefighters in the field
- Following lectures and presentations
- Via children's mental health
- Police
- Police Youth Aid
- Justice Department
- Schools and other concerned agencies.

Every year in NZ hundreds of fires are deliberately lit by children and juveniles, resulting in millions of dollars worth of damage to public structures, residential properties and ultimately destruction of lives.

We have a social responsibility to invest in our youth by way of education and rehabilitation – through intervention. By educating our troubled children and youth we also educate and protect NZ families.

Below is an over view of the organisations I visited

Portland Maine

Tuesday 11th May am

Pine Tree Burn Foundation AGM

"Education today for a safer tomorrow" – theme of PTBF.

During the early to mid 1970's Maine held the distinction of having one of the highest burn injury rates in the United States. Making matters worse was the fact that most of these burn injuries were to children. Across the country the U.S. Fire Service began to take note of fires started by children and the number of injuries and deaths resulting from those fires. It was around this same time that a trauma physician at Portland's Maine Medical took note of the burn injury rate and took action to address it.

A group consisting of trauma physicians, burn nurses, fire service professionals, an attorney and several other community leaders was formalized under the name of the Pine Tree Burn Foundation.

I attended the 2010 AGM consisting of members representing the various external agencies.

A major focal point for this group is to have a conference that attracts all agencies to educate them on injury prevention/burn safe. Delegates pay to attend.

One of the crucial aspects is on safe cigarette - have huge incidence of injury from elderly smoking while on oxygen therapy.



Tuesday 11th May PM

Maine Juvenile Fire Safety Collaborative Steering Committee

The Maine JFS Collaborative is established for the purpose of preventing injuries, the loss of life, and the loss of property from juvenile-set fires.

Called a wrap around group. This is a new initiative to encourage all external agencies to work together towards the common goal of injury prevention, with a focus on fire setting. Ensuring there is no gap in system and the program overlaps

The JFS Collaborative comprises of representatives from the following departments, agencies, and providers:

- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Corrections and Law enforcement
- Department of Education
- The State Fire Marshal
- Maine Fire Training and Education
- Southern Maine Community College Fire Science Division
- A representative from fire services
- Mental health services community
- Pine Tree Burn Foundation

The participation and involvement of all disciplines involved in the assessment, intervention and/or treatment of at-risk juveniles with fire setting behavior is encouraged to further the establishment of a statewide safety program.

The JFS Collaborative will focus on the prevention of injuries, the loss of life and the loss of property. This will be accomplished by:

- Developing and institutionalizing effective juvenile fire safety programs statewide by educating the public regarding the dangers of children and fire;
- Increasing the percentage of departments reporting juvenile related incidents to the Maine Fire Incident Reporting System and the National Fire Incident Reporting System;
- Strengthening existing juvenile fire safety collaboratives;
- Creating new collaboratives in areas of Maine where they do not exist;
- Developing and supporting effective intervention programs; and
- Institutionalizing and sustaining responsive services statewide.

MJFSP - screen each client, they then go on to attend fire school for the education section of the program.

Present at the meeting was:

Maine State Fire Marshall - John Dean

Commissioner of Public Safety - Anne Jordan

Wed 12th May - Portland Maine

Jerry DiMillo - Public Education Officer and Fire Setter Program Director
Portland Fire department, Maine

In coordination with the Maine Task Force on Juvenile Fire Setting, Jerry is the author of 'Children and Fire - A Bad match', a screening tool which was developed in 1996 to meet the needs of the small fire departments and volunteer fire fighters.

The screening tool consists of a family section and a child section and solicits information on the child, the environment, the fire activity and possible rein-forcers of the fire behaviour. The instrument also lists appropriate interventions for each type of fire setter in a straight forward process. The screening tool includes a Risk Assessment section and an accompanying guide for using the instrument and for interviewing. During his vast career within juvenile fire setting, Jerry has screened and interviewed some 3500 young people (known within US circles as the 'godfather' of juvenile fire setting)

Used by all fire departments and other agencies involved with fire setters in the state of Maine. The intent of the document was to provide a tool that could be used from the most experienced interviewer to the person just starting out in this field.

This document was presented to me by Jerry for use within the NZFS Juvenile Fire setter programme



Worcester Massachusetts

Attended Pre - conference presenters dinner on 12th

13th/14th May - Worcester MA

North Eastern Juvenile Fire Setting Conference

In its 4th year, the Northeast Juvenile Fire setting Conference brought together a large contingent of delegates from fire service, education, mental health, state agency/child protective service, burn care, law enforcement and juvenile justice professionals. The goal for the 2010

Conference was to provide attendees with hands-on tools and useful strategies which will augment firesetting programs and interventions for children, families & communities.

Sponsored by, Department of Fire Services, MA Property Insurance Underwriting Association, MA Association of Safety & Fire Educators

Around 250 hundred delegates attended the conference, converging from all areas of the public and private sector.

Experts from across the U.S. presented the following topics & more:

- Cyber bullying, social media & the Internet
- Anger management
- CBT skills for fire setting
- Working with parents
- Middle school fire safety
- Community interventions



I presented on behalf of the NZFS on the afternoon of the 13th (see attached PPT at end of this document)

Saturday 15th May Natic MA

Brandon Residential Treatment Centre for Troubled Boys

Since 1966, Brandon has been at the forefront of providing exceptional services to troubled boys and their families. A non-profit school and residential center; Brandon provides stabilisation, diagnostic, educational, residential, clinical, day treatment and case management services to over 150 boys and their families annually. Boys referred to Brandon have a range of educational, emotional and behavioral difficulties. As a result of their difficulties, these boys have not been successful in public schools or in their communities.

Brandon Residential Treatment Center has been a leader in the development of services for boys involved in dangerous or reckless firesetting behaviour. The Rapid Firesetting Assessment Service at Brandon offers the most comprehensive and evidence-based assessment of problem firesetting that is available within a short-term (45-60 day) residential setting.

Brandon's Intensive Firesetting Treatment Program offers a fire-safe, staff-secure environment on the Main Campus for boys whose firesetting behaviors are determined to be unmanageable in the community or in a less restrictive placement.

I was privileged enough to be given a guided tour through this remarkable facility. Where I also had the good fortune, to be able to interview three young juveniles with fire setting issues, who are housed at this facility.



Above is the residence or 'house' for boys with fire setting issues

Monday 17th May

Sgt Paul Zipper Massachusetts State Police - Haverhill Fire and Explosion Unit

The Juvenile Firesetters Intervention Program in Haverhill is based out of the fire prevention and public education offices of the Haverhill Fire Department. Referrals are from juvenile court staff, district attorney's staff, public and private mental health providers, social service providers, school officials, early childhood education centers and parent training groups. The program consists of 10 to 12 classroom sessions on fire behavior, fire safety, home hazards and fire prevention.

Haverhill is part of the statewide coalition dedicated to preventing the tragedy of child-set fires by combining the resources of interagency juvenile firesetter intervention programs to insure that any child who exhibits inappropriate fire behavior in any community will receive consistent, prompt and effective intervention. This program provides intervention services for children and families in over 85 communities across Massachusetts.

Breakfast meeting

Bill LaLiberty - Dept Fire Chief ,Fire Prevention, Haverhill

Fire Setters all go through police system. Juveniles get assessed by experts, eg psyche/ experts from the education sector
Attend training/education schools; if they complete the course any charges that have been made by law enforcement get dropped.

MA Fire Academy at Essex Agricultural School, Hawthorne

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy offers the following National Fire Academy courses:

Juvenile fire Setting 1 - JFS1; teaches students to conduct an interview with firesetters and their families and provides an overview on the issue of juvenile firesetting, who these children are, and effective intervention strategies.

Juvenile Fire Setting 2 - JFS2; develops skills in interviewing and assessment of juvenile firesetters, program development, implementation and evaluation. It covers identification and intake, coalition building support and management, budget and funding, keeping a database, and program evaluation.

Fire educators are generally no longer working as fire fighters on the trucks, their primary role is fire education. Educators are also made up of ex police officers. 365 cities and towns in MA, each have their own council - no state wide fire service. Funds come from the county.

I sat in on the training for JFS 1&2 programs - collected curriculum for this program

MA State Crime Lab (Sudberry)

John Drugan - chemist, manager of the Arson and Bomb Lab

The ***Arson and Explosives Unit*** receives evidence recovered from crime scenes involving suspicious fires and explosions. The unit identifies ignitable liquid evidence recovered from a fire scene that may have been intentionally used to propagate a fire. The unit also identifies explosives or explosive residues recovered from a bombing scene, and can reconstruct devices to assist investigators in identifying perpetrators and the source(s) of device components.



Utilising state-of-the art equipment including two Scanning Electron Microscopes, the Unit analyzes sample collection stubs applied to hands and/or other surfaces for the presence of gunshot primer residue.

Had a guided tour around the Arson and Bomb lab with John Drugan (pictured), was shown how the department deals with arson cases. I was able to witness some very explicit fire and explosive case evidence.

MA State Fire Marshall - Steve Coan

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy MFA provides fire training to municipal fire service personnel at no cost to the cities and towns.

The flagship program offered by MFA is the 12-week recruit training program. The Academy offers over 300 topical continuing education courses and fire officer training

Toured around state headquarters and training academy. Inventory includes 2 big engines, 1 ladder truck

Hot fire training - 3 story BATB

Gas props

Flash over building

Major response vehicles - stages of emergency range from levels 1-6

Rehabilitation and Command Unit



Massachusetts Fire fighting Academy

Denver Colorado

Wednesday 19th May

Marion Doctor - Clinical Social Worker

"Treatment of individuals as opposed to process and services"

Marion Doctor has served as a clinician and Programs Manager for The Children's Hospital Burn Program and Assistant Clinical Professor, University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Marion joined the Burn Team staff in 1978. In that capacity she developed The Children's Hospital Burn Camps Program and The Juvenile Firesetters Assessment and Treatment Programme.

As founding Director of the Colorado Juvenile Fire Setting Program - established 1978, Marion is also a committee member for the 18th Judicial District Juvenile Firesetter Task Force. Marion works in close collaboration with Dr. Brad Jackson of children's Hospital.

Thursday 20th May - morning

The Children's Hospital, Aurora CO

A 1994 survey conducted by The Children's Hospital Burn Center concluded that more than 78 percent of children treated for flame burn injuries were burned in child-set fires. Nearly 45 percent of the fires that killed children under 5 were started by children themselves.

The Children's Hospital Burn Program provides assessment and education services to children with fire related behaviour problems. Psychologist, Dr. Brad Jackson who is a faculty member of the University Of Colorado Denver School Of Medicine, specialises in pediatric burn injuries and rehabilitation needs, and serves as a consultant to the burn team. The board certified psychologists provide patients and families assistance in coping with psychological effects of a burn injury. This includes consultation, psychological assessment, and treatment of behavior problems, psychological adjustment, post-traumatic stress disorders and pain management.

I Attended 'group therapy' with Dr Brad Jackson and his colleague Dr Katie Mattei. The first session was with 4 young children with fire setting issues and their parents. This involved basic decision making techniques and fire safe behaviour - I was able to facilitate this part of the session.

The second session was with 4 juveniles ranging in age from 12 -15 yrs. Presenting with issues pertaining to hoax bombs, to deliberately lit structure fires. During this session we examined a case study and dealt with feelings and behaviours surrounding the attendee's actions. Parents were also present at this session.

Participants will attend up to 10 one hour sessions
I collected the curriculum for this program

Afternoon

Lt Commander Diane Schroder - Service and Education Bureau (ex Fire Fighter) **Aurora Fire Department**

I sat in on a screening interview Lt Schroder was conducting with a 9yr old boy. The first interview was with the child on his own, in the second interview the mother was present also.

Aurora Fire Department use the FEMA screening tool (Federal Emergency Management Association) Their program works as follows:

7 and under - one on one education program

8- 12 yrs - group work

13- 17 yrs group work - 2hrs week for a month

Attendees must pledge to remain fire safe to partake in program

Tracking ph calls - 1 month

6 months

1 year

Because the FEMA tool is a weighted questionnaire, if the results indicate anything other than typical fire setting, the child/juvenile is referred on to the Children's Hospital.

As part of my travels I visited the City of Aurora Fire and Rescue Department



Evening

Diane had organised a meet and greet session with other female fire fighters in the Aurora area.

Friday 21st May Morning

Tracey Taylor - South Metro Fire Protection District (ex Fire Fighter)

Miki Frost - West Metro Fire Protection District

The South Metro Fire Rescue Authority's mission is directly linked to the programs offered by the Life Safety Education Unit. They strive to proactively engage with communities to provide the best protection of lives and property through prevention and education in an attempt to reduce the occurrence of fires and injuries.

Both programs use the FEMA assessment tool.

Two program options

Low level risk - 2hour Fire Safety education session one on one with family - delivered by a fire fighter

Court ordered - 2hour class with all juveniles and families in the court process

Juvenile signs a contract stating they will continue with fire safe behaviour.

Mentoring/monitoring system ensures client is abiding by contract. Regular phone calls are made to the client, once contract is completed; client is then sent a card inviting them to a station visit.

I Collected curriculum for this program



Afternoon

Craig McPherson - Jefferson County Juvenile Assessment Centre

Arson Education

In junction with the West Metro Fire Protection District (WMFD), the JAC is able to offer a one-time arson education class to youth on case management (if applicable). This is a fee-for-service program, and brings in between \$2,000-\$3,000 annually. An investigator from West Metro conducts the class with assistance from a senior case manager. Both parent and youth are required to attend. Evaluation of the effects of this program on recidivism is underway.

Mike Davis - Fire Marshal, Fire Prevention Division, Windsor, Co

As Windsor is quite isolated they operate very autonomously. They do their own assessments.

If the case is relatively simple, they carry out a basic intervention at the station, delivered by Fire fighters.

If the case becomes too in-depth or complex, the juvenile is referred to Dr. Brad Jackson at the Children's Hospital



I also had the opportunity to view the newly developed Winsor Fire and Rescue Museum



Saturday 22nd May

Cheley Burns Camp - Estes park



Cheley Colorado mountain summer camps is located in the spectacular Estes Park Valley on three separate sites. Land O' Peaks Ranch is situated 75 miles northwest of Denver, just south of Estes Park.

The Cheley program was expanded in 1984 to include the Cheley/Children's Burn Victims Summer Camp for children who are healing from a burn injury. The 8-day camp welcomes burn survivors from all over the world.

Cheley staff members provide the camp program and counselling expertise, while The Children's Hospital team provides expertise in burn injuries and emotional/social issues. In addition, firefighters from Denver and Estes Park and burn nurses from other countries join the staff to help provide a spectacular experience for everyone.

Some of the children attending the burns camp are children involved in fire setting who have suffered burns. This provides additional challenges to camp directors and Dr. Jackson, when trying to blend groups of children who are victims of fire as well as children that set fires.



I was shown around the Cheley Burns camp by Camp Directors/Owners Don and Jeff Cheley.

Portland Oregon

Monday 24th May

Connie Willbanks - Community Affairs Manager, Fire Safe Children and their Families

Linda Nickerson MSW- Program coordinator, Fire Safe program

Non profit organisation, working in collaboration with:

Fire Service

Law Enforcement

Juvenile Justice

Mental Health

Dept Human Services

Private Sector - Oregon Burns Centre

Property and Casualty insurance corporation

Two programs run side by side:

Safety program - 12 -18 yrs, 92% court involved, 2hrs per week for 8 weeks.

deals with issues such as decision making, boredom, thinking errors, communication issues.

The child becomes part of the Justice info system - checked at intervals for reoffending

6mths and one year follow up with phone calls to ensure they are following their behaviour plan

Fire Academy - 6 - 12 yrs, self referral by parents/caregivers/schools/fire etc

6mths and one year follow up with phone calls

6 sessions x 1 hr with the juveniles and their parents.

Focus on feelings, decisions, fire safety education, and role model fire safe behaviour

Parents and kids are separated at this meeting and dealt with in individual groups.

Rapid Intervention program

Preventing relapse - referred to psych if necessary.



Evening session

Barb Newcomb - Juvenile Counsellor, Washington County Juvenile department
Jannah Wiseman - Probation officer

The goal of the Washington County Juvenile Department is to provide safe communities and responsible, productive young people.

Program focuses on:

Misuse of fire

Explosives/hoax bombs

PFA's

Fireworks

Move has gone from being Fire Service run to being operated by external agencies.

One program, coordinated by Juvenile justice for 6 - 18 yrs, 2hrs per week for 8 weeks. Graduation is held at the last session. Students do a presentation of their work and a speech.

Also have a school curriculum and training package

Programme has also been tailored to suit minority groups - mainly Spanish

Retired Fire service personnel as educators

I attended a graduation ceremony for 4 juveniles completing the program



Tuesday 25th May - morning

Judy Okulitch and Helen Feroli, Oregon Office of State fire Marshal
Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention program

The program goal is to reduce the incidence of fire by establishing a continuum of care for youth who misuse fire and their families in the state of Oregon, using community-based intervention programs.

This program coordinates multi-disciplinary county networks to serve youth with fire setting behavior issues. Staff efforts include training for community partners and members of the fire service on how to screen youth and intervene through education or referral. Staff also conduct research with the University of Oregon to establish best practices in assessment and treatment methodology, collaborate with mental health professionals on innovative treatment strategies, and encourage court mandated accountability programs.

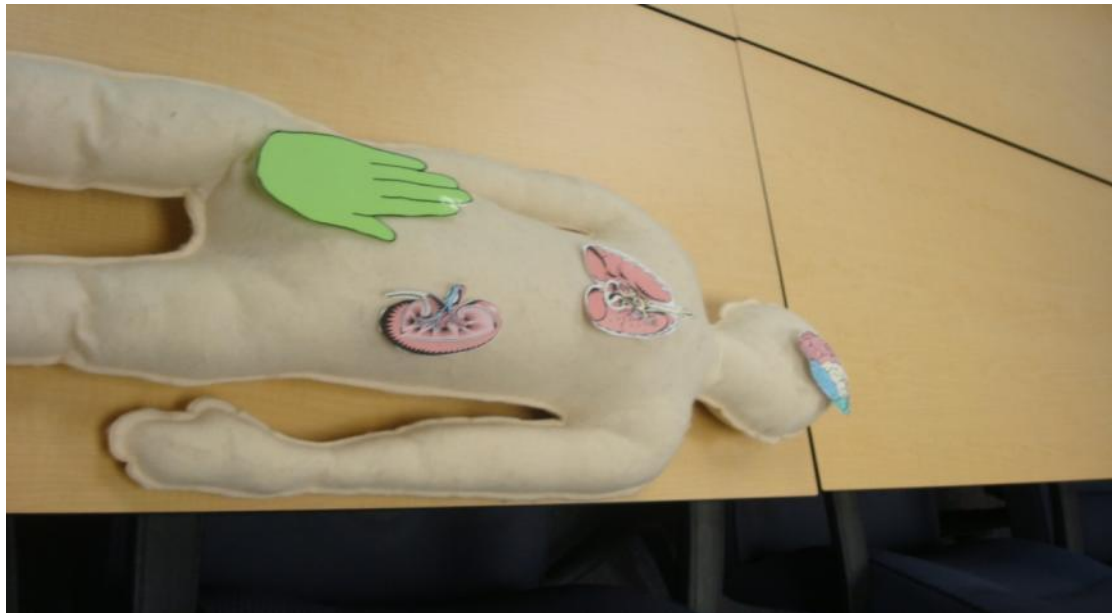
The state program works in partnership with fire service, law enforcement and social service agencies in servicing the needs of children and youth in their communities.

While here, I also met with Claire McCrew who manages the Emergency Planning and Response dept for Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal. We looked at OSFM incident reporting systems and electronic information storage network.



Katie Balding - Educator, Legacy Emanuel Hospital Oregon Burn Centre

Visited the burns unit and met with educator Katie Balding
Oregon Burn Center staff travel throughout Oregon and SW Washington presenting free burn prevention and education classes. Classes are delivered to burns victims and their families, which includes children burnt from fire setting activities.



Wednesday 26th May

Wilson Whittaker - PhD Psychology, Salem Keizer School district

Juvenile Fire setter Threat Assessment Team

The Keizer school district enlists the services of a psychologist to oversee the safety and well being of all children in the district. JFSTAT have developed a systems flow chart, by which they follow when any student displays fire setting tendencies. The process hinges on information sharing by the interested parties, which include school counsellor, Law enforcement, Deputy Fire Marshal, parents.

Los Angeles

Thursday 27th May

Station Ride along, Santa Monica Engine #3.

I joined the crew at Santa Monica station #3 at the change of shift - 0800hrs. Fundamentally the station operates similarly to the NZFB. Their morning routine consists of - parade, appliance checks, drill, and PT. Unlike NZ however, most of the fire departments in the U.S. are trained paramedics who respond to all medical emergencies with ambulance back up for transportation purposes only. Ambulance personnel in most areas are only trained in basic first aid.

During my station ride along we attended a gas leak and also a medical emergency/patient hospital transfer.



Conclusion

While there was much to be gained from meeting and researching the many programmes operating in the U.S. it was also of great benefit to the organisations I met with, to be able to showcase the NZFS and in particular the FAIP programme on the international stage.

My FAIP presentation at the North-Eastern Juvenile Fire Setting Conference was hugely successful and very well received.

There is something to be said for being a small country with only one fire brigade and one budget so to speak. All five of the states I visited comprise of many individual fire brigades who rely on funding from the local governing body and donations from the public.

Maine - population of 1.3 million, comprising of 16 counties

Massachusetts - population of 6.5 million, 14 counties

Colorado - population 5 million, 64 counties

Oregon - population 3.8 million, 36 counties

This creates huge sustainability issues, with some fire departments having to discontinue vital programmes due to fluctuations in incoming funds.

There is also concern regarding standardisation of resources and programme curriculums. Many of the county Fire Departments do not have the financial stability to create high quality resources and consequently use self produced, computer generated resources. The quality of the resources we have produced for our FAIP programme were of great interest and the few resources I was able to hand out were hugely appreciated.

That said; I was able to collect course curriculums for the majority of the organisations I visited and also gather a great variety of resources and learning tools, which are now to be implemented within our own programme.

Interagency collaboration within most programmes I visited is of a very high standard. They have very good mechanisms in place that guarantee young people do not slip through the cracks. Wrap around groups and collaborative working parties ensure that in each state, fire service, education, mental health, state agency/child protective service, burn care, law enforcement and juvenile justice professionals are working together. We still have an issue in NZ with our programme not being well known enough in the external arena resulting in some young people not being referred to our programme.

I have now gathered screening and interviewing tools from a variety of the organisations I visited, which will require further investigation as to whether they are appropriate to be adapted and implemented within our programme. The United States have similar issues as we do in regard to the cultural diversity of their population. There is a need to ensure the cultural requirements of indigenous peoples and immigrants are taken into consideration.

Because all programmes have adopted a collaborative approach, they have made significant progress towards ensuring troubled youth are referred to the appropriate agencies. A large portion of the juveniles interviewed are referred on for further psychological testing to certify there is nothing impeding their development.

One of my objectives was to research international trends using 'group interventions' as a way of dealing with firesetting issues. Incidentally for 95% of the organisations I met with, group interventions is their only intervention tool. It is only a small minority of organisations that implement one on one interviewing. These usually were in the more remote areas where they simply do not have the population to warrant group interventions. This predominantly applies to our own programme; however there are instances where we deal with groups of offenders. To be able to adapt one of these programmes currently operating to suit our needs would benefit us greatly.

Much work is now needed to be done to examine the finer points of each curriculum and screening tool to see if they can be of any benefit and strengthen our programme. The old saying of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" certainly rings true, however we must be vigilant in our approach and keep fully informed of tools available.

Recommendations

- Currently we do not have any formalised follow up process. Most of the programmes I researched have a follow up process where the juvenile is contacted at regular intervals after they have attended the programme – usually at one month, 6 months and 1 year intervals. I feel this would be beneficial to our programme by way of tracking our clients behaviour following the intervention this would also clarify how successful the intervention has been.
- Using the information I have gathered work must be done on creating a 'group intervention' programme that would be suitable to use within NZ. The majority of our cases are dealt with on an individual level, however, we have had incidents of group offending. Currently we have no formal group programme to be able to deliver to large numbers.
- Strengthening our interviewing process and introducing a screening tool that would eliminate any children slipping through the gaps. The most common screening and interviewing tools used in the U.S are the FEMA tool, the Maine protocol and the Oregon screening tool. Study will now be done on these three processes to see if they are able to be adapted and used within our programme.

- I have been invited to contribute to *Hot Issues*, the first quarterly newsletter dealing specifically with the multi-disciplinary issues of juvenile fire setting. Published by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal. This will give our programme great publicity worldwide. Feedback will be sought from all members of our FAIP programme to ensure we present a well rounded image.
- Since my return I have developed three new intervention tools which have been released for use within our programme. They are: A cup of stress, Pay up and web of impact. These new techniques are based on resources I gathered from my trip and adapted to suit our environment.
- Development of a collaborative working party, with the intention of strengthening ties with external agencies. In New Zealand recent history has indicated young people are slipping through the cracks and not receiving the social services they require. This would involve external agencies such as CYFS, Police, Youth Aid, Education, Mental health, Youth services etc functioning in a wrap around capacity to ensure children and youth receive the appropriate intervention and or treatment.
- One of the most significant benefits to come from this research is that Psychologist Dr. Brad Jackson from Children's Hospital in Colorado will be presenting at our annual FAIP conference in May this year. Dr. Jackson specialises in interviewing techniques, an advanced skill that many of our practitioners have requested for further development.



Key note Biographies: I have included a brief biography of some of the organisations I met with during my trip



Meri-K Appy, President

Home Safety Council Washington, DC

Meri-K Appy is President of the Washington, DC-based Home Safety Council (HSC), the only national organization solely dedicated to preventing the nearly 20,000 deaths and 21 million medical visits that result each year from accidental injuries in and around the home. She currently serves on the Advisory Board of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health's Center for In-jury Research and Policy, the National Advisory Committee of the Congressional Fire Services Institute, the Fire Safety Council, and the steering committee of the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition.



MA State Fire Marshall - Steve Coan

As the Massachusetts State Fire Marshal and the head of the Department of Fire Services, I am very proud of the progress we have made to provide much needed resources to the fire service community which includes training, uniform, application of the fire codes, fire data, hazardous materials response, life safety education, and fire investigation.



Marion Doctor has served as a clinician and as a Programs Manger for The Children's Hospital Burn Program and Assistant Clinical Professor, University of Colorado School of Medicine. Marion joined the Burn Team staff in 1978. In that capacity she developed The Children's Hospital Burn Camps Program and The Juvenile Firesetters Assessment and Treatment Program. Marion has been a member of the Advisory Board for Colorado Safe Kids Coalition, a committee member for the 18th Judicial District Juvenile Firesetter Task Force and Project Staff and Instructor for the Colorado Juvenile Firesetter and Prevention Program



Jerry DiMillo is Director of the Maine Juvenile Fire Safety Collaborative Program, a statewide organization of juvenile firesetter collaboratives sites, instituted by Executive Order of the Governor of the State of Maine. Jerr oversees 14 sites covering the entire state of Maine and utilizes collaborative services of mental health, social services, professional educators, police, fire and district attorneys. DiMillo retired from the Portland, Maine Fire Department and has been involved with juvenile firesetter programs for more than 25 years.

Sergeant Paul Zipper, Ph.D. has been with the Massachusetts State Police for 20 years, most of which has been spent with the Fire and Explosion Investigation Unit operating out of the State Fire Marshal's Office. He has conducted literally hundreds of fire investigations over the years, in the process gaining an expertise in witness and suspect interview and interrogation techniques. His work with the Lawrence Arson Task Force, which began in 1992, brought him national (and international) attention. He has lectured in Australia and The United Kingdom. He has taught the arson investigation class at the FBI National Academy. The Massachusetts State Police adopted his training program on interrogation techniques as the standard course for investigators.



Dr. Brad Jackson received his Ph.D. in Child Clinical and Developmental Psychology from the University of Denver in 1999. Since that time Dr. Jackson's varied experiences have included working in private practice, serving as a clinician and supervisor in both inpatient and day treatment settings, and serving as staff psychologist for the eating disorders program at Children's Hospital in Denver. Dr. Jackson is currently the Clinical Director for the Juvenile Firesetting Evaluation and Treatment Program through the Burn Center at Children's Hospital in Denver, CO and also consults to the hospitals rehabilitation camp for burn injured children. Dr. Jackson is one of the lead investigators on a study looking at gender differences among adolescents with firesetting.



Judy Okulitch is the statewide coordinator for the Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention Program at the Office of State Fire Marshal in Oregon. She chairs a statewide advisory group that sets long and short-term goals for the state's intervention program. She directs the publication of *Hot Issues*, the first quarterly newsletter dealing specifically with the multi-disciplinary issues of juvenile firesetting. She has lectured nationally on the establishment of networking strategies for communities interested in solving the problem of juvenile firesetting. She is a contributing author in the *Handbook on Firesetting in Children and Youth*, edited by David Kolko. Ph.D.



Dr. Tim Kopet, Ph.D

Psychologist, Portland, OR

Timothy Kopet, Ph.D. is a clinical psychologist with Portland, Oregon Public Schools and is in private practice in Portland, Oregon. He consults with juvenile justice agencies, child welfare, and special education. Dr. Kopet developed the Juvenile Firesetter Needs Assessment Protocol with John Humphreys, LCSW. For the last 10 years he has facilitated a parent group for parents of firesetting children and provided assessment and treatment to many children and adolescents who have misused fire. He serves as the Clinical Director for the Fire Safe Children and Families Program. He is a contributing author to the publication: "Firesetting in Children and Youth: A Multi-Disciplinary Practical Handbook" (Academic Press, Nov. 2000).



John Egan, Fire Education Specialist

The Brandon School, Natick MA

John is a certified Fire and Life Safety Educator and is a member of The National International Association of Arson Investigators Juvenile Firesetter Committee, International Society of Fire Service Instructors, The International Fire Marshals Association, The National Fire Protection Agency. John developed and implements the FireSmartKids Juvenile firesetter Intervention program and has served as the coordinator for the last 18 years. John has collaborated on the writing of several fire safety and juvenile firesetter intervention curriculums with members of the Massachusetts Coalition for Kids & Danger

NZFS presentation to the North Eastern Firesetters conference

