



## **THE AUSTRALIAN INJURY PREVENTION NETWORK (AIPN) STRATEGIC PLAN 2012-2015**

### **Mission Statement**

AIPN will facilitate the minimisation of injury-related harm throughout Australia for all vulnerable population groups by supporting coordinated national action in advocacy, knowledge sharing, research, policy and practice.

### **Who are we?**

AIPN is an independent, non-government national network representing all-age, all-cause injury prevention and control in Australia.

The AIPN is Australia's key professional body for practitioners, researchers, academics and allied professionals. It has a broad-based membership from all sectors of the injury prevention community, including health, transport, emergency services, crime prevention, education, sport and recreation, planning and industry. Membership is open to students, individuals and organisations, including community-based groups.

AIPN is governed by a written constitution and managed by an elected Executive Committee, supplemented by co-opted members, and supported by a part-time Secretariat.

AIPN has a website, quarterly newsletter and facilitates highly successful conferences where injury prevention research and knowledge is shared with its membership and other interested parties.

AIPN represents the interests of its constituents, encourages best practice in injury prevention and control as well as research and injury surveillance.

The AIPN strives to promote knowledge of the causes of injury and safety promotion in order to minimise injury-related harm throughout Australia.

### **Background**

Injury prevention and control was declared a National Health Priority Area by the Australian Government in 1986<sup>1</sup> in recognition of its enormous impact on Australia's health and its largely preventable nature.

In Australia during 2009–10, there were over half a million (557,689) separations from public and private hospitals as a result of a serious injury; enough people to fill the Melbourne Cricket Ground five times over (Australian Hospital Statistics, 2011). Indigenous Australians were hospitalised at more than twice the rate of other Australians in the same period.

The AIPN recognises that measured in these terms, injury is unquestionably a public health problem of major importance.

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<sup>1</sup> Better Health Commission, Looking Forward to Better Health, 1986. Australian Government Publishing

## **Aim of the Strategic Plan**

The 2012-2015 Strategic Plan will set the agenda for the AIPN for the next three years and guide its activities to maximise the potential for achieving its mission.

The AIPN has identified four broad strategic objectives and a range of goals to achieve these. The four objectives are:

1. Strengthen our role as a key advocacy body.
2. Identify emerging injury issues.
3. Provide a forum for collaboration and knowledge sharing between injury researchers, practitioners and policymakers.
4. Build capacity of the injury prevention sector work force.

Action plans have been developed to address each of the strategic objectives. The Action Plans are reviewed regularly by the Executive Committee.

### 1. Advocacy

- Continue to raise awareness of injury as a national priority area.
- Encourage a vision of injury prevention and control as a community wide, cross-sectoral, all-of-government issue.
- Strengthen the capacity of the AIPN to advocate for injury prevention in Australia.

### 2. Emerging injury issues

- Utilise the extensive knowledge of AIPN members to maintain a watching brief on injury issues

### 3. Knowledge Sharing and Collaboration

- Facilitate collaboration between sectors and encourage the inclusion of all Australian injury related bodies.
- Disseminate evidence-based preventive strategies.
- Promote best practice models, needs identification, priority setting, quality assurance and program evaluation.

### 4. Capacity building

- Facilitate continued education and training for Network members.