

## The Foundation's Expert Partner: Fireproof Children

Since 1982, Fireproof Children, Inc has conducted extensive research into the issue of juvenile firesetting. In 2004, realizing that its research and training principles were equally valuable in addressing childhood injury prevention in general, the company increased the scope of its concern and work to include the study and prevention of childhood injuries of all types.

Today, the mission of Fireproof Children is injury prevention through the delivery of education, research, training, global educational programs and organizational partnerships. They provide research-based training and educational materials to fire departments, schools, day care centers, and community agencies. They also offer a variety of training programs, including custom-designed workshops.

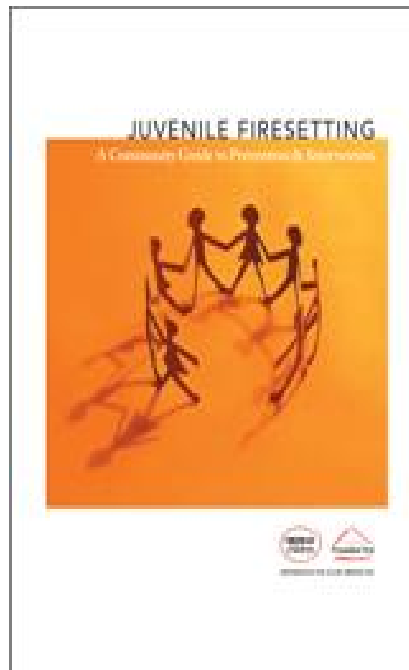
Fireproof Children provides researched-based training and materials supporting safety education and professional development for the fire service, early childhood educators and community organizations. Their training model uses the insights and techniques of social marketing to address the key elements of effective training.

They have been selected by leading companies, non-profit and government agencies to develop and present hundreds of training workshops:

- **Making the Most of Home Visit/ Inspections** as part of the Firefighter Neighborhood Outreach Training developed for the **Rochester, NY Fire Department** and funded by a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. The program was designed to enhance firefighters' ability to build rapport with and to educate homeowners regarding fire prevention, smoke drills, and the importance of home fire drills.
- **Community Coalition Building**, developed for the **Office of Juvenile Justice** to help communities coordinate effective interventions for problems the are beyond the scope of a single agency.
- **Skill Building Workshops**, developed for **NASFM** and customized for fire service, mental health professionals and social service workers who may work with children involved in fire setting.
- **Home Safety Training** originally developed for **Habitat for Humanity New York State** and available to community agencies to help the households they serve better protect themselves from home injuries, including fires, poisonings and falls.
- **Fire Safety for Preschool Children and Families**, a train-the-trainer program developed with grants from the **Federal Emergency Management Agency**, which consistently cites it as one of its Fire Prevention success stories.
- The organization has also developed and delivers the renowned *play safe! be safe!* program for day care and public fire educators, as well as several other injury prevention programs for children.

In the area of juvenile fire setting and intervention, Fireproof Children has authored a publication of its more than 25 years of research and hands-on experience as fire investigators and child development experts. The publication *Juvenile Firesetting: A Community Guide to Prevention and Intervention* has been cited as “*the mental health professional’s best source for understanding juvenile firesetting and crafting office-based interventions for young patients and their families*”<sup>1</sup>. It includes chapters especially for mental health professionals, and nuts and bolts techniques for building local community coalitions.

Fireproof Children is a leader in the field of juvenile firesetting research and intervention, and has served as NASFM’s partner in its juvenile firesetting intervention work for more than a decade.



The Fireproof Children textbook:  
*“Juvenile Firesetting: A Community Guide to Prevention and Intervention”* was distributed to all the participants in the NASFM Foundation’s train-the-trainer workshops

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<sup>1</sup> Journal of American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry