

CHAMPLAIN HUMAN SERVICES AND JUSTICE
Coordinating Committee (HSJCC) Meeting Minutes
Date: May 19, 2020

HSJCC Position	HSJCC Member	R	
Regional Chair	Joan Garrow	x	
Regional Vice-Chair	Justice Heather Perkins-McVey	x	
Regional Secretary	Natasha Kelly	x	

LOCAL HSJCC Representative	Chair/Co-Chair/Delegate	R	
Renfrew County	Cheryl Summers	x	
SD&G/Prescott-Russell/Akwesasne	Johanne Renaud	x	
Ottawa			

Justice		R	
Federal Crown	Christa Record		x
Provincial Crown			
Duty Counsel	Susan Morris	x	
DCAO Defense Counsel	Sarah Starkie		x
Youth Probation	Adam Cameron	x	
Ottawa West Probation and Parole Services Area Manager	Megan Schell	x	
Ottawa West Probation and Parole Services Assistant Area Manager	Vicki Quesnel		x
Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre	Kristal Hennigar	x	
	Trent Running		x
Ottawa Police Service	Holly Watson	x	
Ottawa Police Service/OYJSN	Jessica Ripley	x	
Ontario Provincial Police	Cynthia Savard	x	

Ministry of the Attorney General		R	
Crown Attorney	Marie Dufort (Adult)		x
	Dave Roberts (Youth)		x

Health		R	
The Ottawa Hospital	Mary Kelleher		x
CMHA	Lisa St. Pierre	x	
Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre	Dr. Joel Watts		x
John Howard Society	Kelly Cardinal		x
	Jan Goatcher	x	
Elizabeth Fry Society	Sarah Davis		x
Montfort Renaissance	Elisabeth Beach	x	
Acquired Brain Injury – LHIN	Suzanne McKenna	x	
LHIN	Kevin Barklay	x	
Valor & Solutions	Aisha Stambouli	x	
Rideauwood	Andrew Mendes		x
CAMH	Leslie Wells		x
Schizophrenia Society	Sheila Deighton		x

Salvation Army	Gordon Hudson	X	
Mental Health Advocate	Sanjay Sharma	X	

Youth		R	
Youth Services Bureau	Melanie Bania	X	
Youturn	Marisa Moher		X
	Emilie Dubuc		X
Youth Now	Mark Arnold		X

1.0 Call to Order, Introductions, Approval of Agenda & Additions

- Agenda approved as circulated.

2.0 Review and Approval of Previous Minutes: January 28, 2020

- Minutes approved as circulated.

2.1 Review of Action Items from Minutes

- a. **J. Garrow and K. Hennigar to bring updates to next meeting regarding the call about the reintegration centre trailer in Toronto.**
 - Kristal and Joan met with Amber Kellen on January 30th. Amber is the Director of Community Initiatives, Policy & Research at the John Howard Society in Toronto; she is also the Chair of the Toronto HSJCC.
 - Amber spent a generous amount of time telling Joan and Kristal about the Reintegration Centre that was opened near the Toronto South Detention Centre. She explained the history and some of the challenges, like funding issues, they had in getting it up and running. She stressed the importance of being close to the jail in order to reach offenders in the critical period of time right after they are released, sometimes with no appropriate clothes and nowhere to go.
 - Staff can provide reintegration services through former inmates trained as peer support workers, providing bus fare, footwear, food, clothing and the use of a phone or a place to charge a mobile phone.
 - This has been significantly expanded by John Howard leasing other space in Toronto to provide reintegration services.
 - Amber spoke a bit about the workplan, when the idea was being thought about, the number of stakeholders and sessions they had.
 - It was noted that it would be a great addition to discharge planning.
 - **Action:** A working group was formed and includes Lisa St. Pierre, Jan Goatcher, Probation and Parole (Megan Schell). Lisa will call the initial meeting. Jan will take back to John Howard and provide information at the next meeting.

- b. **H. Perkins-McVey will report back with updates on the EIDTC pilot project at the next meeting.**
 - The Early Intervention Drug Treatment Court has been running and has been interesting. Persons have struggled with far more difficulty than those in a more intense program. There is some struggling with access to programs during this COVID time but are still interested in expanding the program. A meeting was held today to discuss what to do in the immediate timeframe. It is felt that there needs to be a more critical mass of 5-6 clients to help with collegiality and bonding. There has been much greater success with the higher risk group of people with addictions.
 - Rideauwood has been using Zoom for one on one counselling.
 - One issue that has arisen is gaining access to information and services at The Royal.
 - J. Goatcher noted that John Howard has also had greater success during this COVID time.

Everything is being done remotely and everyone is keeping their appointments.

- **Action:** Add information sharing to the work plan.
- H. Perkins-McVey noted that she would like to see an HJCC meeting before September.

c. Renew sub-committee for red envelope for updates and to get going again. T. Running will bring back to OCDC to the transport department the issue of transporting items. Members to include: Salvation Army, Probation & Parole, OCDC (including transport), Local Committees. M. Schell will take the lead.

- This project was put on hold due to the pandemic. M. Schell had started reaching out to find out where it appears the gap is. Probation and Parole weren't utilizing it as much as thought, therefore M. Schell re-sent the information and some discussion took place. It is recommended to reserve a spot for it on the work plan.
- C. Summers noted that the program seems to be hit and miss on when it's working in Renfrew County. **Action:** C. Summers will connect with M. Schell to follow up.
- J. Renaud would like to help develop the discharge planning for her local and join the sub-committee.

d. The two local chairs and the executive committee to connect to work on next year's workplans

- COVID surfaced and the meeting was put on hold, to be rescheduled.

e. J. Garrow will ask Wendy Muckle from the Inner City Mobile Van to present at the meeting in May.

- J. Garrow was introduced to Kim Van Herk who is the manager of the nursing team. She was to present at this meeting but due to the cancelled meeting in March will ask her to present in September.

3.0 Collaborative Crisis Response Working Group (H. Watson)

- Not discussed due to time constraints.

4.0 Provincial Highlights (J. Garrow)

- The provincial committee is now meeting every two weeks due to COVID to get a sense on what's happening. They are using the Adobe Connect platform. A lot of time is spent discussing the impact of COVID, for example on the courts and some considerations of alternate forms of release. Some highlights will be sent with the minutes.

5.0 Presentation on ICWP (12:10, John Cooper)

- John Cooper, Intermittent Community Work Program Officer, presented on the program and what it has to offer. He noted that it has been a successful program whereby many participants have benefitted. PowerPoint presentation and further information was sent to all committee members via email.
- Currently all activity has been temporarily suspended due to COVID. All have been placed under house arrest but hope that it will be expanded in the future.

6.0 Medic Alert (J. Garrow)

- Not discussed due to time constraints.

7.0 Response to COVID-19 (All)

• Youth Probation (A. Cameron)

- All offices are working remotely. Interaction with clients is primarily over the phone. There are a lot of issues with connectivity and technology. Things are in a holding pattern at the moment,

waiting for updates from the province. Access to secure tools are needed for confidentiality. J. Garrow noted that The Royal uses doxy.me and zoom healthcare which are PHIPA approved.

- **Probation & Parole (M. Schell)**

- Service delivery has been impacted and has moved to a reduced staffing model. Services have been tailored toward more high risk clients. Lower risk clients are being met with via telephone. Reporting to the Ontario Parole Board continues. Employees are limited in capacity to do reports. There are some capacity issues with space available to see clients in person. Clients accessing mental health services has been challenging, with hesitation to do sessions by telephone due to confidentiality. M. Schell noted that it would be helpful to know what services are running. J. Garrow recommended referring to Connex Ontario.

- **Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre (K. Hennigar)**

- Court appearances are being done by video and phone.
- New arrivals go to intake and go through a screening process and are tested for COVID-19 if there are symptoms. They are then put into quarantine for 14 days based on the admission date.
- Cleaning has increased.
- OPH is being kept in touch with very closely for updates and testing results.
- Every single person leaving OCDC receive masks. Individuals are spoken to regarding medication for discharge planning and their needs and OCDC will provide three days' worth and can also provide a prescription which is faxed to the pharmacy.

- **Ottawa Police Service (H. Watson)**

- It's pretty much business as usual. Officers have protective equipment. The number of mobiles have been minimized to absolutely necessary cases. Some interesting changes have been noticed like hospitals are below 100% capacity and have been since Easter weekend. The distress centre had an initial increase but it has died off and it has been attributed to online services available without a referral. H. Watson gave a shout out to the C-Prompt clinic at The Royal.

- **Ottawa Police Service/OYJSN (J. Ripley)**

- School officers have been redeployed to patrol, with two left in the office. Calls were expected to increase but have remained pretty consistent. Officers are spending a lot of time on the phone with parents and providing support. The Service is making sure officers are familiar with how services have been adapted. A surge after things ease up is expected as the impact has been felt by everyone being kept indoors.

- **CMHA (L. St. Pierre)**

- Offices are closed and people are working from home. Clients can be seen if needed while practicing social distancing and using full PPE if needed. Clients are being provided with phones to keep in contact with them. The agency is still taking referrals, but only taking referrals from Mental Health Court court-wise. It has been a challenge to connect with clients who are homeless but try to connect with their lawyers if possible. CMHA is partnered with counselling services at connect.org who can match a time that both counsellor and client are available. Some challenges have been the inability to get ID's for clients, medication or finding a GP, especially when being released from custody. J. Garrow noted that it is being discussed provincially. A COVID-19 Release from Custody Task Force has been formed in Thunder Bay to address the challenges.

- **The Royal Ottawa (J. Garrow)**
 - The hospital has seen a significant change. Employees are working from home if they can. As few outpatients are being seen face to face as possible. Patient visits are being done mostly virtually.
 - ORB hearings are being held by Zoom. Community partners have been providing tablets and telephones to help clients with hearings.
 - The Long Acting Injection clinic has moved to first floor, occupying part of the OSI clinic so that clients do not have to move through the hospital. The C-Prompt clinic is also housed there and has been very busy.
 - A mobile self-screening option for staff will soon be implemented.
 - Each program has been asked to submit, for consideration, which services should be ramped up, to be approved by the command centre. One on one counselling at The Royal is not there yet with the provincial guidelines.
- **John Howard Society (J. Goatcher)**
 - residential and non-residential programs are still functioning. No COVID cases so far, using PPE and have increased cleaning. Non-residential has been moved to functioning remotely. Education and employment programs – clients are all connected by zoom or phone call. Clients have been given a laptop or phone if they didn't have one, donated by Ruckify. Taking people on in employment program. Have had about 15 folks get jobs since the lockdown. Anchorage, working with clients who have graduated. Crisis support still continues at the office. Doing a lot of activities online to help clients with mental health and well-being. Education program is going really well with OCDC and are really appreciated. Staff going in 2-3 times a week. An hour meeting every month to share resources would be really good and useful.
- **Montfort Renaissance (E. Beach)**
 - Operations are primarily via phone or video. Screening and triaging for high need clients is still taking place. The agency has partnered with Rideauwood for services. Lower risk clients are being checked in with weekly to see if needs have changed and/or if the clients are stable. Case management services are being switched to telephone services. Mental health services are being maintained at a distance. Services are also being offered online.
- **Acquired Brain Injury (S. McKenna)**
 - All services are being offered virtually. Referrals are also being accepted virtually.
- **SD&G/Prescott-Russell/Akwesasne (J. Renaud)**
 - Services are being offered remotely. Clients are not being seen face to face but preparations are taking place for when it does happen. Clients on the wait list are being reached out to. Verbal consent is being accepted because it has been challenging to get signed consent. The courts are being asked for more information before accepting clients.
- **Duty Counsel (S. Morris)**
 - The courts have been closed since about mid-March. All crown, duty counsel, defence counsel personnel have been working remotely. Some video courts are available but are restricted to matters that are in custody, bail, pleas. No trials are taking place. Mental Health Court continues and ensures clients are still getting resources in the community. Legal aid has pushed all their resources to help clients in custody to ensure bail hearings. Everything is on hold with respect to new people coming into the system. Court services have been adjourned to July 6th at a minimum and there will be a massive backlog when it returns to normal.

- **In Conclusion (J. Garrow)**

- **Action:** J. Garrow has asked all attendees to submit responses to these three questions. There will be a possible meeting in a month to address these questions:
 - How is COVID-19 affecting service delivery in your region?
 - Is there any information that you would like to share that could help support the HSJCC Network during this time?
 - How can the HSJCC support you?

8.0 Next Meeting: September 22, 2020, 12:00 p.m., 4th Floor Crown's Boardroom