

CHAMPLAIN HUMAN SERVICES AND JUSTICE
Coordinating Committee (HSJCC) Meeting Minutes
Date: January 26, 2021

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			
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	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)/Nicole Brenes (Admin)		x
	Dave Roberts (Youth)		x

Health		R	
The Ottawa Hospital	Mary Kelleher		x
CMHA	Lisa St. Pierre	x	
John Howard Society	Kelly Cardinal	x	
	Jan Goatcher	x	
Elizabeth Fry Society	Sarah Davis		x
Acquired Brain Injury – LHIN	Suzanne McKenna	x	
LHIN	Kevin Barklay	x	
	Rod Olfert		x
Valor & Solutions	Aisha Stambouli	x	
CAMH	Leslie Wells		x
Rideauwood	Colleen MacPhee		x
Salvation Army	Gordon Hudson	x	
Fetal Alcohol Resource Program	Heather Lacey		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: November 24, 2020

- Minutes approved as circulated.

2.1 Review of Action Items from Minutes

- Call for members for a working group on a drop in center where people could safely attend court or have access to a phone. It was noted that John Howard is doing a pilot project for hot spots for this purpose. Wendy McHenry with John Howard and Laura Baker from duty counsel is working on it. K. Cardinal will follow up with W. McHenry to see if there's an opportunity for a partnership and potential use of Hsjcc resources. The committee would also like to hear from clients on where the ideal spot/area would be to attend court virtually. J. Garrow to follow up with Justice Perkins-McVey to get her thoughts.**
 - No updates.
- J. Garrow will follow up with The Royal's Learning and Development team on Mental Health First Aid training.**
 - This training may be an option. There are two approved trainers to be able to deliver the course virtually. A workshop is being planned for March/April, Joan has requested one in March.

3.0 Presentation: "Navigating the Justice System with a Brain Injury" (M. Vigar ED, Brain Injury Society of Toronto)

- Presentation and video given by Melissa Vigar and Katie Manikas.
- There is a significant gap in knowledge and supports for people with brain injuries which causes a whole host of problems, ie. people tend to be incarcerated more, their sentences are harsher, right from the moment they interact with police and throughout the criminal justice system. In an effort to address this, a proposal was submitted to the law foundation of Ontario asking for some supports. The request was for funding for a support person to work with folks who have been diagnosed or who have a suspected brain injury to navigate the justice system. Unfortunately, what is funded are educational projects and not that kind of direct support. Funding was provided to produce an online tool kit that highlights the barriers that exist but also some tools and resources to be better equipped to navigate the system. This project ends in March but will continue the work. Another project has been started where funding for direct support has been received; social workers are currently being trained.
- Funding has been received to help people with the technology piece. Two community workers have been designated to support clients with this.
- Melissa can be reached at mvigar@bist.ca for any questions. The website is ABIJustice.org for additional resources, videos, and training sessions.
- Training is also done with police to help them recognize a client who may have an ABI.
- A French website/forms are being requested, which is reported to be a work in progress.

4.0 2021 Regional Work Plan – Committee Reports

- The work plan for the 2021-2022 fiscal year will need to be completed and submitted to the secretariat by March 1st.
- a. Orientation Package**
 - No updates.
- b. Education**
 - There was a meeting held on January 13th. An idea was to provide some training for facilitators to work with clients who are getting CBT and DBT training. The feasibility of funding will need to be discussed.
- c. Animal Care While in Treatment**
 - Courts are not yet open due to COVID so this endeavour has been put on hold.
- d. Mental Health First Aid**
 - Discussed in action items.
- e. Reintegration Trailer**
 - Jan Goatcher reached out to the folks at the trailer in Toronto and that person is willing to come to a meeting. There is a possibility that John Howard would have some money to support the trailer. The question is how OCDC will feel about it, so Jan reached out to Steve Ashdown, the superintendent, to get his thoughts. Steve was to discuss with his co-workers and get back to Jan. The thought was that it would be put on the back burner for now due to the current pandemic, as well as many vacant leadership positions. This project will be put on hold until OCDC can be on board.
- f. Innovative Ways to Support Individuals with More Barriers During the Pandemic**
 - A meeting has not yet been scheduled. Kelly Cardinal will follow up.

5.0 Reallocated Discretionary Funds

- There is some regional committee money available to be spent before the end of March. The provincial committee also has a surplus which has been divided between regional committees. The criteria is that it must be used for direct client impact only and spent by the end of March. Joan has received some direct requests for grocery tickets, OC transpo day pass cards, and anti-bugging kits. It was agreed the \$1750 from the provincial committee will be divided equally between Renfrew County, Ottawa, and SD&G/Prescott-Russell/Akwesasne.
- Johanne Renaud has developed a special project to spend extra funds. The intent of the project is to provide assistance to clients in an emergency situation for SD&G/Prescott-Russell/Akwesasne where emergency allowance would be provided for clients who meet certain criteria like release from court, release during winter without proper clothing or footwear, low income, potential of homelessness, financial difficulties, or at risk for criminalization. Funds could be used on taxis, pre-paid visa cards, winter coats, grocery cards.
- Tech support for clients was a recommendation.
- Joan will send an email for feedback and ideas on how to spend the money with a deadline of the middle of February to ensure it gets spent before the end of March.

6.0 Provincial Highlights (*standing item, J. Garrow*)

- Highlights will be circulated when received.

7.0 Roundtable

Duty Counsel (S. Morris)

- The general duty counsel number is (613) 238-7931 x 7001 that anyone can call for legal advice from legal aid.
- Courts are closed to all in person appearances, except for trials and some in custody appearances.

ABI (S. McKenna)

- The Developmental Services Ontario has offered a temporary wage enhancement for those who have a support worker from October 1st of last year to March 31st of this year.
- Clients have been struggling with the virtual options as well as having difficulty being on screen for a period of time.
- More calls are being received for medicinal CBD because of depression and anxiety.

LHIN (K. Barkley)

- Investments are beginning implementation.

Probation & Parole (V. Quesnel)

- Some video pilot projects are being worked on to do some remote reporting with clients.

CMHA (L. St. Pierre)

- There have been challenges supporting clients through court matters during the lockdown. Some of the shelters are experiencing positive COVID cases. It will likely be discussed at the Mental Health Court core committee this afternoon.

Salvation Army (G. Hudson)

- Legal Aid and the Ottawa Public Library have supplied chromebooks to the shelter to help clients access court.

SD&G/Prescott-Russell/Akwesasne (J. Renaud)

- The local committee had a visit from the secretariat. There was training on member engagement and how the committee would like to move forward. Something that was identified was creating their own vision. To be worked on is creating less priorities and recruiting persons with lived experience.
- The committee is looking for people to sit on the release from custody project. The first meeting is next Monday. Johanne will bring an update to the next meeting.

8.0 Next Meeting: March 30, 2021, 12:00 p.m., via Zoom