



**Downtown Toronto Human Services and Justice  
Coordinating Committee (DT-HSJCC)**

**Meeting Minutes  
March 8, 2013  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Old City Hall, Room 14**

**Present:** Susan Davis (Co-chair), Gerstein Centre; Rhona Zitney, CRCT; Nick Harrilall, Sound Times; Thuan Ngo, Houselink Community Homes; Dana Fisher, Duty Counsel; Theresa Hirschberg, LOFTS; Nellie Rahman, LOFTS; Crystal Sinclair, Toronto Bail Program; Imtiaz Moursalien, Toronto Bail Program; Amber Kellen, John Howard Society; Marguerite Campbell, Margaret's Housing and Community Support Services; Sheryl Lindsay, Sistering; Marguerite Campbell, T.A. Patterson & Associates Inc.; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Debbie Lynch, CTYS; Priscilla Ofosu Barko, CTYS. Gord Reid, Toronto Police Services; Joanna Theriault, Toronto Police Services; Edward (Ted) Kelly, Defense Counsel; Dianna Cochrane, CAMH; Chris Persaud, Habitat Services; Joanna Zielinski, Parkdale Probation and Parole; Sajedeh Zahraei, CAMH; Meredith Kushnir, CAMH. Brad Gill-Tamcsu, Senior Programs Advisor on the Toronto South Detention Centre; Dianna Cochrane, CAMH; Robin Cuff, CAMH; Mary Ross-Hendriks, Judiciary; Debbie Lucas, Toronto Bail Program; Allar Viinamae; Probation and Parole; Cindy Rose, Toronto Public Health.

**Regrets:** Katie Almond (Co-chair) Riverdale Probation and Parole; Rhona Jitney, CRCT; Sandra Bricker, Toronto Network of Specialized Care; Bill Gapen, Griffin Centre; Irine Sytcheva, Schizophrenia Society of Ontario.

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Everyone introduced themselves.

**Review of January 8, 2013 minutes**

- The minutes were approved with the following amendment: page 2, third paragraph - change Margaret Frazer House to Margaret's Housing and Community Support Services.

**2013 - Work Plan**

- Accepted with the knowledge that there is flexibility.

### **Centralization**

- Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of centralization.
- Waitlist very long. For MH there has not been a huge change. For the diversion programs, the impact has not occurred.
- Central access is a good idea but it removes the therapeutic rapport. Being on the waitlist makes engagement impossible and leads to depersonalized human relations.
- When one informs clients that the waitlist is long, you can lose them. This has a major impact for corrections.
- The lack of shelter beds is impacting bail. When there are no beds, people stay in custody.

### **Lunch and Learns**

- Wayne Skinner is willing to do a Lunch and Learn on Concurrent Disorder in April 2013.
- Ted Kelly announced that pharmacologist Jane Bash, who teaches at Ryerson University, is willing to speak at a Lunch and Learn about behavior symptoms. Ted will ask her if she is available in May 2013.

### **Membership**

- There is a gap with the following sectors: youth (transitional-18 to 24) and aboriginal representation. Connecting with Turning Point Youth Services and Aboriginal Legal Services was suggested
- Sajedeh Zahraei informed the group about the Youth Network

### **Service Resolution**

- Deferred to the next meeting.

### **Presentation – Justice Collaborative, Sajedeh Zahraei, Community Engagement Lead, GTA Region, Provincial System Support Program**

- Presentation slide deck was distributed prior to the meeting.
  - Research approaches used include evidence based, implementation services, and quality improvement. Looking at health equity as the overarching framework.
  - The focus of the Toronto justice collaborative is adults dealing with Mental Health, Addictions and Justice.
  - Using a needs validation process before formally identifying the gaps and needs. The gaps are decided by the players at the table. CAMH is only facilitating the process. Consultation, data collection, reports, etc. used to identify the gaps.
  - Focus of the collaborative is to improve the system with existing resources, and to support what is working well. Sustainability is part of the support.
  - Program funding not part of the justice collaborative.
  - 18 months time frame to set a structure in place, and network to improve the system.

- Sajedeh Zahraei informed the members that there would be a Town hall meeting to further the dialogue on the justice collaborative.
- Sajedeh Zahraei asked the following questions:
  1. What are the main issues or gaps you are experiencing in your role?
  2. From your perspective, what are the main issues or gaps for a justice collaborative in Toronto?
  3. What geography should it cover?
  4. With regards to the membership of the justice collaborative, which organizations or individuals do you feel are currently not at the table? Who else needs to be included?
- Due to time constraints the questions were not fully addressed. Sajedeh Zahraei will send the questions to Domenica Dileo who will forward them to the members for input.

**Presentation** - Brad Gill-Tamcsu, Senior Programs Advisor on the Toronto South Detention Centre

- Brad Gill-Tamcsu will provide the slide deck, if approved for distribution.
- The Don Jail and West Detention will be moved to the Toronto South Detention Centre (TSDC).
- TSDC will accommodate 1650 inmates - largest in the country. Will open in 2013.
- Safety through state of the art security. Will be the most environmentally-friendly facility in the province.
- Majority of the inmates will be on remand, awaiting court decisions. The remainder will be serving provincial sentences up to two years less a day.
- Most of the inmates will be from the Greater Toronto Area.
- With putting the two jails together, the TSDC will have 500 extra cells.
- It is estimated that there will be approximately 210 new admissions weekly and approximately 180 releases weekly. The average age of inmates in institutions is 34 with 21% under the age of 21.
- The predicted average length of stay for remanded inmates in the TSDC will be 30 days. The Aboriginal population represents the largest group.
- The TSDC will be classified as a maximum security institution. It is able to house inmates ranging from minimum security to maximum security levels.
- The primary means of visiting will be with video technology and video kiosks similar to Skype. Have 5 private rooms to address accessibility issues. 12 areas available for legal counsel. Visits not recorded.
- Inmates will undergo a thorough intake screening, including a security, healthcare, mental health and placement assessment.
- Direct supervision on floor- fewer rules, more normalized.
- Indirect supervision – officers working behind the bars - higher security level.
- MH and special needs have direct supervision

- Living Units – a) generalized inmates house unit b) protective custody unit c) special needs (40 beds x4 = 160 beds), MH unit of 26 beds for individuals with acute level of psychosis identified in admission.
- 46 program units - each unit has 40 inmates.
- MH assessment done on site with psychiatrist and nurse. Aiming for integration and normalization.
- Programs offered in rehabilitation, education, healthcare, spiritual services and volunteer services.
- Rehabilitation – life skills, anger management, substance use, anti-criminal thinking.
- Healthcare - primary healthcare. Infirmary room, treatment without going to the hospital.
- Spiritual care – multifaith chaplaincy services.
- Education will be provided to support the needs of inmates interested in achieving high school credits.
- Discharge Planning - TSDC staff will work with inmates to assist them in planning for their release and establishing themselves.
- Volunteer program will continue,
- Brad Gill-Tamcsu will look into whether we can have the May 2, 2013 DT-HSJCC meeting at the TSDC.

**Actions:**

- Domenica Dileo will send the Justice Collaborative survey feedback to the members.
- Susan Adams will follow up with Wayne Skinner for an April Lunch and Learn.
- Ted Kelly will follow up with Jane Bash for a May Lunch and Learn.
- Sajedeh Zahraei will inform the members about the Town hall meeting in April.

**Next Meeting**

- May 2, 2013
- 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- Old City Hall, Room 14 **OR** at the TSDC