



**Downtown Toronto Human Services and Justice
Coordinating Committee (DT-HSJCC)
Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2014
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Old City Hall, Room 14**

Present: Katie Almond (Co-chair) Riverdale Probation and Parole; Susan Davis (Co-chair), Gerstein Centre; Rhona Zitney, CRCT; Julie Mehred, CRCT; Vesna Milinkovic, CRCT; Elaine Amsterdam, Gerstein Centre; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Flora Matheson, St. Michaels's Hospital; Gord Reid, Toronto Police Service; Esther Daniel, Judiciary; Margaret Creal, Crown Attorney's Office; Debbie Lucas, Toronto Bail Program; Sarah Easterbrook, Probation and Parole (Yonge St. Office); Phaedra Downer, Probation and Parole (Jane St. Office); Michael Lyster, Strachan House; Sarah Haslip, T.A.Patterson & Associates Inc.; Katie McIsaac, University of Toronto; Kenisha Henry, Humber College; Ryan Fritsch, LAO; Marianne Quirouette, University of Toronto; Sheryl Lindsay, Sistering; Lin Sally, LOFT

Regrets: Sandra Bricker, Toronto Network of Specialized Care; Patricia Pagnani, Toronto Bail Program; Talena Jackson, Margaret's Housing and Community Support Services; Debbie Lynch, CTYS; Cindy Rose, Toronto Public Health; Chris Persaud, Habitat Services; Amber Kellen, John Howard Society of Toronto; Robin Cuff, CAMH; Anna D'Agostino, Bartimaeus Inc.; Cathy Finley, Crown Attorney's Office; Cindy Shoot, Cota; Evelyn Mitchell, Salvation Army, Maxwell Meighen; Irina Sytcheva, Schizophrenia Society of Ontario; Jill Shakespeare, CAMH-Justice Collaborative; Kaley Smith, Turning Point; Nick Harrilall, Sound Times; Quen Yorston, St. Joseph's Health Centre; Alison Hunt, The Access Point; Andrew Clark, Judiciary; Dianna Cochrane, CAMH's Complex Mental Illness Program; Jennifer O'Brien, Cota; Linda Brett, The Access Point; Natalie Reitmuir, CHIRS; Mike Federico, Toronto Police Service; Tanya Connors, CAMH-FEIS

Welcome and Introductions

- Everyone introduced themselves
- Marianne Quirouette from the University of Toronto's Sociology (Criminology) Department was introduced as the researcher studying the coordination of marginalized groups. The research examines how practitioners in various fields (1) understand interconnected social/medical/legal problems and (2) work collaboratively to negotiate working with clients who are often criminalized.

- Esther Daniel replaced Mary Ross-Hendriks on the committee.

Review of September 4, 2014 Minutes

- The minutes of September 4, 2014 were approved with the following amendment: add Evelyn Mitchell's name as she was present.

Lunch and Learns

- The session on 'Changes To The NCR Legislation' with Justice Richard Schneider on October 29, 2014 was well received. An Evaluation was conducted and 94 per cent of respondents rated the session "Excellent". Lunch and Learn delivery methods were also surveyed. First choice among respondents was to have in-person sessions, followed by webinars.
- Due to limited resources, a live stream webinar of the session is not possible at this time.
- The Lunch and Learn was recorded and will be uploaded to the P-HSJCC website and distributed to committee members. Information to follow.
- Ryan Fritsch has a copy of the NCR movie and can make it available for a Lunch and Learn session.
- Katie Almond thanked Domenica Dileo for coordinating the Lunch and Learn

Presentation –Ryan Fritsch, Legal Aid Ontario Mental Health and Addiction Strategy

- PowerPoint presentation was distributed prior to the meeting and attached to the minutes.
- Legal Aid has started a formal consultation with the province and a new strategy will be released in 2015
- In 2012, LAO initiated development of a Mental Health Strategy with a five-year mandate, which includes a review of all LAO services with ongoing consultations involving stakeholders in the initial and ongoing development of the strategy.
- The MHS is looking at a broader definition of mental health and addiction and how it impacts a variety of stakeholders including how it intersects with LAO. It encompasses family law, criminal law, refugee law, clinic law, etc.
- LAO's mental health services are offered in a wide variety of contexts. Review all LAO services and mandate through a mental health lens.
- Reviewing client and service provider needs since mental health clients are not alike and different approaches are required
- Going forward, MHS is considering pilot projects for new and expanded services in community, courthouses and health facilities; training for all staff and empanelled lawyers; development of intake and triage tools, and more
- Relaxed eligibility and expanded legal coverage policies for clients with mental illness.
- Instead of the Certificate system currently used for lawyers, LAO is exploring more flexible retainer and certificate options to cover the extended needs for some clients and new certificates for MH appeals.

- As part of the consultation, the LAO has created a list of secondary consequences, which they will prioritize for future research
- Currently under development are staff training programs, updated panel standards, new and expanded programming and intake interview and assessment tools.
- The Strategy will give the LAO the opportunity to allow stakeholders to match their client's needs with programs and services
- The Strategy will look at cross-sectoral partnerships
- Considering a mobile legal team
- Ryan Fritsch was thanked for his presentation, the work he's been doing and his involvement on many committees
- Ryan Fritsch contact information: fritschr@lao.on.ca

Agency/Organization Updates

Justice Collaborative – Rhona Zitney reported on behalf of the Justice Collaborative. The Justice Collaborative is focused currently on the Reintegration Centre while College Park courthouse is temporarily deferred. The Justice Collaborative has been working with service providers to use a common intake and referral tool

CRCT - Rhona Zitney reported that CRCT is engaging in a health promotion psycho-educational group in partnership with the Ministry of Corrections and Community Safety. The group will work on life skills, culminating in a certificate.

- Program starts in December 2014. More information will be sent to Domenica Dileo for distribution
- Vesna Milinkovic reported that CRCT received new funding from the City of Toronto for the city's homeless to provide new housing workers with the goal of breaking the cycle of reoffending

TSDC – Katie Almond reported that she has not received any replies for a representative to attend a meeting to update the committee.

- She reported there are approx. 600 inmates at the TSDC.
- The Toronto Metro West staff are moving to the TSDC.
- Seconded staff have been asked to return to their home positions at the institution.
- Committee members expressed concerns that they have had difficulty communicating with the TSDC healthcare staff. Katie Almond will follow up and try to get a TSDC contact name.

MCIT – Gord Reid reported that the MCIT has expanded from Divisions 11 and 14 to

include Division 22. Division 22 is not full-time and is partnered with St. Joseph's Hospital

Service Resolution/Coordination Issues – No issues identified

Updates from T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC

- Lin Sallay reported that the Save the Date will soon be announced for the Provincial HSJCC 's 2015 Conference
- The term for Sandie Leith, the current co-chair of the Provincial HSJCC, has ended and the committee is looking for a new Co-chair
- The Provincial HSJCC is organizing a webinar on FASD. More information to follow

Actions

- Domenica Dileo to invite the Reintegration Centre to present at the next meeting
- Katie Almond will follow up and try to get a TSDC contact name.

Next Meeting: January 8, 2015

8:30 a.m. -10:00 a.m.

Old City Hall, 60 Queen St. West, Room 14

Presentation: TBD