



**Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2022
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present: Susan Davis (Co-chair), Gerstein Crisis Centre; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Debbie Lynch, CTYS; Flora Matheson, Centre for Urban Health Solutions; Robin Cuff, CAMH Drug Treatment Court; Natasha Bartlett, Fred Victor; Ahmanhkyah Malcom-Witter, City of Toronto; Elizabeth Pereira, Legal Aid Ontario, Old City Hall; Shane Rolland, Toronto Police Service (TPS); Courtney Miller, Operation Springboard; Valerie Danieli P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Committee and PWLE Committee; Elaine Amsterdam, Gerstein Crisis Centre; Joyceline Sobers, Fred Victor; Julian Cocomile, (student) Fred Victor; Brittany Hunter, CTYS; Charlene Crews, Toronto Housing/MOH; Natasha Bronfman, Mental Health Advocate; Tricia Dunbar, CHIRS; Mary Burton, CHIRS; Barbara Domenech, Cota; Kate Siemiatycki, LAO; Saige McMahon, 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations; Sharie Thompson-Ruddler, TSDC; Kristina Dobosz, Community Network of Specialized Care, Toronto Region; Melissa McMillian, Community Network of Specialized Care, Toronto Region

Regrets: Michele Landis, E Fry Toronto; Chris Persaud, Habitat Services; Nick Harrilall, Sound Times; Catherine Wiseman-Hakes, Toronto Rehab Institute; McMaster University; Tia Adams, V/WAP at College Park

Land Acknowledgement

Susan noted the Land Acknowledgement recognizing the history of the Indigenous People and their contribution to the land we stand on.

It was suggested we share the Land Acknowledgement among the members. Please email Susan or Domenica if you are interested before the next meeting.

Welcome and Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves. The committee's intentional evaluation at the end of the meeting was noted. Charlene Crew noted that she has a new role at Waypoint Patient Advocate as well as at Toronto Community Housing. The following people were welcomed: Faryana Griffith, Mental Health Coordinator at Old City Hall Bail Program, and Erica Lalonde, Springboard.

Presentation: Kristina Dobosz, Dual Diagnosis Justice Coordinator, and Melissa McMillian Justice case manager for the Justice Centre from the Community Network of Specialized Care, Surrey Place.

- PowerPoint slides will be circulated.
- Surrey Place serves people of all ages with developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorder

- Programs and departments were discussed; Early Infancy and Infant Hearing Screening, Toronto Autism Services Network, Children and youth program, TRE-ADD School-Based Service. FASD services, Wellness Program, DSO Toronto, and Adult Program
- DSO – Developmental Services Ontario is the access point for adult developmental services funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) in Ontario.
- In Ontario, 3% of the population has a developmental disability. It is estimated that approx. 10% of those individuals will come into contact with the law.
- Role of the Dual Diagnosis Justice Coordinator – ensures that individuals with a dual diagnosis and who are involved with the criminal justice system, as well as their families, obtain the short-and long-term services/resources they require in the mental health and developmental sectors
- Toronto Downtown East Justice Centre – JC works with 51 Division Police Station, court runs every Thursday via ZOOM
- Individuals arrested within 51 division
- The JC will provide integrated access to Case managers, Inner City Health Associates
- Eligibility criteria for the JC – Adults charged in 51 Division, history of recidivism in the past 12 months, the existence of mental health, substance use, homelessness, and/or developmental issues
- The JC will accept individuals charged with low to moderate-level offenses
- The Crown Attorney assesses cases at College Park to see if individuals qualify for the JC and alerts case managers from Sound Times and Surrey Place.
- Case managers work with the individual to create an individual plan (IP)
- If an individual does not attend the JC, their charges will be remanded back to the originating court and they will go through the normal court process

Themes Discussed: What happens if an individual going through the justice centre is not successful? Their case goes back to the ‘normal’ court system.

Do youth have to be on DSO to refer to your program? Kristiana noted that if a youth is 18 years with suspected DD reach out to her and she can make a priority referral if an individual is before the courts.

Robin noted that it is important if a person is not successful for the Crown to note that the client has tried.

Joycelyn asked if a court diversion client not following their goals can be referred to this program. It was suggested to speak with the Crown and request a referral to the JC.

Robin noted that Crown-to-Crown communication can be part of the treatment order recommendation. As well noted that it is exciting to see the JC working. How can we make sure that clients benefit from this? Triaging is very important for the success of the JC.

Melissa and Kristina were thanked for their informative and insightful presentation.

Review of September 15, 2022 Minutes

The minutes of September 15, 2022, were approved.

Review Action Items:

Action items were reviewed and completed.

Susan reported that we are still looking for a DT-HSJCC Co-chair from the justice centre. She noted that the Co-chair position reflects the HSJCC operation values -- one Co-chair from the mental health sector and the other from the justice sector. As well the person must be familiar with the work of the committee. If you are interested or want to nominate someone contact Susan or Domenica.

Meeting Time:

Given that there has not been much input. It was agreed to maintain the current meeting time. Acknowledging that at times some people might be late.

Lunch N' Learns Updates

- Susan reported on the Anti-Racism Series. The first session took place on October 27th and the second will take place on November 24. The facilitator was Dr. Rai Reece from the Metropolitan University. The feedback has been phenomenal. To attend session two, you need to have attended session one. It was suggested to repeat these sessions. They were not recorded, but resource materials were circulated. 378 registered and 178 attended. Domenica reported on the NY-HSJCC session which took place on September 29, on the Gladue: What it is and Why it Matters. We had five hundred and eighty people registered and 188 in attendance. The recording was circulated.
- S-HSJCC held a Lunch and Learn on October 19, on Community Reintegration: A Pathway from Custody to the Community – A Model of Collaborative Care Through Pro-Active Discharge Planning. Eighty-eight people registered and 42 were in attendance.
- Charlene stated that there will be a Lunch and Learn on December 15th on the MOH, Patient Advocacy regarding treatment orders, the MH Act, and hospital limitations. More info to follow.

Community Safety and Wellbeing Plans Feedback

Susan provided a brief background about the CSWB Plans. The questionnaire was provided by the Provincial HSJCC for the Toronto Locals to provide feedback. The collated summary for the DT-HSJCC meeting feedback is below:

1. *How are Regional and Local HSJCCs involved in Community Safety and Wellbeing Plans (CSWB Plans)? Do representatives from HSJCC's sit on CSWB tables or have a mechanism for information flow between the two? (and if not involved, what are some of the potential barriers around participation?)*

Downtown Toronto HSJCC meeting on November 3, 2022

· It was noted that the Gerstein Crisis Centre overlaps coordination with the City of Toronto, Focus tables, and TCCS (Toronto Community Crisis Services). For example, crisis response that may involve guns is connected to the CSWB Plans.

2. *Do community partners find the CSWB Plans useful to their local communities? Are the plans enhancing communication, collaboration, and overall public safety in their community?*

- Committee members acknowledged that the East Toronto Justice Centre is connected to the CSWB Plans to address community safety and wellbeing.

3. *Do you have any suggested changes when it comes to the use of CSWB Plans?*

- The following themes were discussed: How is safety being measured? Safety for who? How do we know what safety looks like? Concerns regarding the increase in apprehensions were discussed. Is this the right thing to do?
- There are new initiatives. It was noted that it will take time to know their effectiveness and the impact on institutional changes.
- Suggestion to have a Provincial suicide prevention phone line separate from 211 or 911 because suicide calls are often diverted to 911 if community response is not available. Research is needed on how other countries deal with these situations.
- It was acknowledged that we are trying to solve system problems so that people have access to health care rather than have a criminal justice response to address health needs.
- It was suggested to ask Scott McKean (City of Toronto) to let us know who the safety plan representatives from each agency are so that we can refer to them when addressing clients' safety plans/issues.

4. *Any other comments or feedback that would help SOLGEN assess the effectiveness of CSWB Plans and improve collaboration between existing structures such as HSJCCs.*

- If there was representation from the CSWB at the HSJCC tables safety issues may be addressed from a human services and justice perspective rather than solely from a municipal perspective.
- It was identified that the CSWB Plans are so big and not specific enough. As well they cover many areas that it is challenging to be involved with their interventions.
- It is difficult to provide input unless you are directly involved with the CSWB Plans/tables.
- The City of Toronto wants to be a trauma-informed city, on the other hand, more people are being apprehended. It was noted that we have crystal meth and post-COVID problems, hand in hand with an increased number of apprehensions.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the language being used for the victim and/or perpetrator when now the perpetrator is seen as the victim. This is a complicated and complex situation from the perspective of victim versus victim.

Agency/Organization Updates

- How is Covid-19 affecting service delivery in your organization, sector, and/or community?

Deferred to next meeting

- Service Coordination/Resolution Issues

None Identified

Updates from T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC:

Susan reported on the Anti-Racism Ad Hoc Committee. Its membership includes all local HSJCC Co-chairs. The main goal is to develop an Anti-Racism educational series for the HSJCC target population. The main focus is education, increasing awareness, identifying issues, and collaboration. The DT-HSHCC will lead a panel session on people with lived experience to talk about their experience from an Anti-Racism perspective in January 2023.

The next T-HSJCC meeting is taking place on January 9, 2023.

Valerie reported on the Provincial HSJCC Anti-Racism Committee. Looking for community connectors who will help to facilitate the conversation to inform the framework of the committee's work. Criteria person to identify as Indigenous, Black, and Racialized and with lived experience. There will be an honorarium. If you are interested or want to refer someone reach out to Valerie.

Discussion regarding intentional values – It was acknowledged to remind ourselves to try to make things better by staying intentional with our values. As well that there is anti-racism work being done.

Action Items:

- Domenica will report on the Anti-Racism Lunch N' Learn sessions at the next meeting
- Domenica will circulate the PowerPoint presentation slide deck.
- Members were encouraged to contact Susan or Domenica if they have suggestions or interest in the Co-chair position.

Presenter for next meeting: Flora Matheson on her research findings re the impact of Covid on folks involved with the justice system.

The next Meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2023 (virtually) from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.