

**Northwest Regional Centre of Responsibility (COR)
FASD/Justice System Working Group Meeting Minutes**

Thurs, Apr 13th 2023

1:00pm – 2:00 pm CST/2:00pm – 3:00 pm EST

Present: Alexis Trepanier (Children's Centre of Thunder Bay), Jenny Leadbeater (CMHA Thunder Bay), Alice Bellavance (BISNO), Terri Dimini (Thunder Bay Youth Probation), Laura McCauley (Lutheran Community Care), Chandralal (CMHA Kenora), Taylor Sundin (CMHA Kenora), Derek West (Thunder Bay Police Service)

Regrets: Sherry Baum (Community Living Dryden/Sioux Lookout), Maureen Parkes (Norwest Community Health Centre), Sara Dias (CMHA Kenora), Robin Dennis

1. Welcome & Introductions and Land Acknowledgement
 - Alice welcomed the group and provided a land acknowledgement
2. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes
 - Alice – request to add 'Design Day' to agenda
 - Updated agenda and previous minutes accepted
3. HSJCC FASD and the Law Webinar re-cap
 - Jenny reviewed some highlights from the HSJCC webinar with guest lawyer David Boulding which included the following:
 - Use of physical examples to demonstrate how the brain differs in people living with FASD
 - ALARM – Assessment Tool
 - Duty of Care, Accommodation and Charter rights (equality before the law)
 - Reference to various books, authors and experts on FASD
 - The group was encouraged to watch the replay of this webinar and a link was included in the meeting package
4. Next steps and advocacy alignment: eg. CAMH and CAN FASD for updated definition of FASD
 - Alice hasn't had opportunity to look into this. How should we approach this?
 - How do we orchestrate services for people if they don't fall under definition of ABI or qualify for DSO services? It's a large undertaking. We need to consider order of operations. Jenny suggested that Claire could start some preliminary research to support why changing definition of ABI to include FASD would be beneficial. The group with this first step.
5. Design Day – Alice discussed a client who exhibits violent and aggressive behavior towards other residents and staff. Has been arrested several times. BISNO has had to hire security guard 14 hours per day since Aug 2022. The court has asked for Section 21 under MHA. Alice has been lobbying with Ontario Health North, St Joe's, TBRHSC for supports and assistance. A suggestion

was made to hold a Design Day on March 3rd to examine 30 different client profiles with similar behaviours from Forensics, AMH, St Joes and BISNO. From the collection, it was noted 98% were both male and Indigenous. It was also speculated that many from this group are living with undiagnosed FASD and all have history of being justice- involved. Many challenges were discussed during this session. Community agencies cannot use restraints with clients and have limited safety options. There were suggestions made that a new type of service be developed; a rural setting with Schedule 1 capacity, to keep highly violent and aggressive clients and community members safe. Some thoughts and ideas were proposed to the NW Specialized Services Network. Other providers need to be part of the discussion (including indigenous agencies and regional input). OHT leads are going to bring it back to their OHT.

ACTION: Alice will forward Design Day document to Jenny to circulate to the working group members. Alice will put together an accompanying memo with questions for the group. Questions could include: What needs to be considered when designing and developing a program of this nature? (eg. 24 bed facility secure facility, tiny homes etc.) What are the legislative implications? Moral/ethics vs legislation when it comes to community safety. Role of Capacity assessments? Need for secure locus of control. A meeting will held on May 10th to draft a proposal for submission to Ontario Health for funding.

Alexis – who are the Indigenous agencies? Alice: Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority, Dilico, 3 independent women not connected to OHT and more

Terri –Early intervention is critical, especially to avoid interaction with justice system.

Alice – has been involved with a Neuro-trauma care project which just concluded year, now going into year 3. Focus on education and training and protecting mothers who've sustained ABI due to partner violence

ACTION: Alice will send a copy of her Power Point presented to this group to Jenny to circulate to working group members.

6. Next Meeting Date: Thurs, Jun 8th, 2023 at 10am EST
7. Adjournment at 3pm EST