

MINUTES

Hamilton Local Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee

Thursday, August 27, 2020
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting – Details in Meeting Request

Membership:

Satar Wahidi - COAST - Co-chair	R	Jessica Montana - Aboriginal Court Worker (Courtworker2)	R
Tyler Benn - CMHA - Co-chair	✓	Jessica Aubertin – Barrett Centre	R
Ainsley Howard – HWDC	R	Joyce Nyamadi - Choices	R
Alison Hibbett – Bethesda	✓	Karen McLeod - SJHH ACTT2	✓
Amanda Richmond – SJHH COAST	R	Keri Zammit - HWDC	✓
Andrew McLean - Crown Attorney	✓	Kristen Emery - DSO	R
Angela Ethelston – Bethesda	✓	Lina Caruso - Probation & Parole	✓
Barb Benedict/ <u>Liane Taylor</u> - SJHH Forensics Program	✓	Lisa Gajewicz - John Howard Society	R
Ben Millard - SJHH CTO Coordinator	✓	Martha Harvie - DSO	✓
Cathy Serra	R	Michal Siekierski – SJHH Schizophrenia	Y
Danielle Newton - Contact Hamilton	R	Michelle Semonovitch - Mental Health Outreach Program	R
Fanis Juma-Radstake - Hamilton Bridge	R	Pete Wiesner - HPS	R
Gene Uchida - ABI Program	R	Dr. Rachel Lamont - SJHH Psychiatrist	R
Greg Melnik - SJHH ACTT2	R	Samantha Harding - Good Shepherd	R
Heather Saunders - SJHH CSIS	R	Sandra Kurdziel - Social Navigation Program	✓
Helen Harris - SJHH Hospital to Home	✓	Sarah Fuller - SJHH RAAM Clinic	R
Ian Lockett – Bethesda	R	Stephanie Bouskill – SJHH PES	✓
Jacqueline Strecansky	R	Susan Boyd - ADGS	R
Jennifer Johnston – HWDC	✓	Dr. Usha Parthasarathi – SJHH PES	R
Jennifer Sansalone – SJHH CSIS	✓		
		Sherry Lewis – COAST - Recorder	✓

- **Welcome and Introductions**

- Tyson welcomed everyone
- Satar is unable to attend
- Meeting will end by 1:30 today

- **Review and Adoption of Minutes – July 23, 2020**

- Minutes were approved by Karen McLeod and no seconder

- **Additions to the Agenda**

- Zoom will be a permanent option regardless of pandemic situation
- Perhaps have quarterly meetings in person
 - All in agreement
 - Next meeting is in September – will be a virtual meeting
 - Will review when we'll have in person meetings depending on Covid
 - Will still have a virtual option available during the quarterly meetings in person
 - Will use in person meetings for presentations, etc., as well as having lunch
 - We are gaining momentum now that it's easier for people to attend the meetings

- **Program Updates**

- HWDC
 - Kari Zammit is starting a 9-month secondment
 - Jennifer Johnston will replace her as manager of Social Work & Rehabilitation and will take her place on the committee
 - Replacing Jennifer's role on the committee is Ainsley Howard
- Virtual Court – September 21st is the target date
 - Case Management Court, which includes first appearances for most of the criminal cases affected by COVID, hasn't resumed since March for anyone in custody
 - Will be virtual exclusively over Zoom
 - Will allow individuals to call in if they don't have internet or access to webcams
 - Will be a lot of confusion when it starts
 - People won't know their court dates
 - Have been adjourned twice in the 10-week adjournments
 - Experience in other jurisdictions that have piloted this, has been less than 50% attendance
 - If they don't attend, they will be adjourned again
 - Summons will be issued
 - For groups on this committee with clients looking for this information, there will be communication coming from the court that will give some clarity to what court dates are (Andrew or Tyson could forward the information to everyone at this table) – no database available that you could look up on the internet to find the dates – can use this information to track back to when your first court date was during this time period and then you can figure out the new court date from there
 - There might be access to telephones or tablets and various programs
 - Ontario Court of Justice website has list of remand dates for individuals that are in custody – <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/>
 - Had some success with calling the Crown's office but this isn't likely to be a good option due to the volume of calls
 - May have clients that have court cases coming up – the Ontario Court of Justice website can be very helpful
 - Call Tyson any time if you have any questions about a particular client who has court dates coming up and he would be happy to assist

- SJHH Forensics
 - Acute Stabilization Unit
 - Was about to start before COVID
 - Officially opening it on September 9th
 - Will allow people in custody could come to St. Joe's for a period of treatment and stabilization and then return to HWDC
 - For admissions – will be direct from HWDC – first admission on Sept 9th

- **Review of Cases**
 - 6 cases discussed (plus 2 previous cases and one not yet discussed in the past)
 - 0 new cases
 - 3 cases closed
 - 1 case on hold

- **Tyson – Referrals to the Committee**
 - Having closed quite a few cases at the last couple of meetings, our client list is quite low now
 - Encouraging everyone that if they have anyone who needs the committee's help right now, they should get their referrals in to Satar or Tyson

- **Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, September 24, 2020 – 12:30**
 - Zoom Meeting – Details to be in Meeting Request