



North York Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee (NY-HSJCC)

Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2015

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Metro North Court Library, 1000 Finch Avenue West

Present: Susan Adams (Co-chair) Defense Counsel; Andrew Graham (Co-chair), Cota; Tammy Tinney, NYG; Michael Story, Duty Counsel; Riun Shandle, Judiciary
Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Patricia Stanford, Crown Attorney's Office; Arthur Stratton, Probation and Parole, Black Creek Office; Patricia Pagnani, Toronto Bail Program; Megan Dealhoy, Eva's Youth Shelter

Regrets: Debbie Lynch, CTYS, New Outlook; Sheila Cressman, Crown Attorney's Office; Diana Korn-Hassani, Toronto Police Service; Jessica Lee, CMHA; Nancy Blades, Cota; Sheine Mankovsky, Judiciary

Welcome and Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves.

Review of September 10, 2015 minutes

Minutes were approved.

Business Arising from the Minutes

- There was discussion regarding topics for a future Lunch and Learn webinar. It was agreed that we pilot a Lunch and Learn webinar and build on what we learned from previous webinars. The committee identified medical assessment as a priority topic. It would address types of assessments, methods of getting them, when they should be requested, what are the limitations etc.
- The Immigration, Refugees and Mental Health Lunch and Learn will take place after the medical assessment session. We're looking at a February 2016 date.
- Domenica Dileo will research available webinar options for the Lunch and Learn and update the committee.
- Andrew Graham reported that the meeting to discuss the distribution of TTC tokens and Food Vouchers with Duty Counsel, the Salvation Army and Cota is in process
- Andrew Graham reported that the clothing donation drive is in process. Susan Adams will encourage counsel to donate winter clothes such as coats, gloves, sweaters etc. Andrew Graham will coordinate storage space for the donated items.

- Andrew Graham reported that Dr. Julian A. C. Gojer's contract is ending. He will be at the courthouse on December 22, and twice in January, February and March.

Lunch and Learns

Domenica Dileo reported that the October 26, 2015 Lunch and Learn was a success. The topic was The Reintegration Centre and Toronto South Detention Centre. Twenty- two people attended. There was cross -sectoral representation from the Bail Program, Community Health Agencies, Hospital, Judiciary, Duty Counsel, Probation and Parole, Corrections, Crown's Office. The Q/A period was informative and interactive.

Presentation: Eva's Youth Shelter - Megan Dealhoy,

- Is the only youth shelter that practices harm reduction.
- Age criteria is sixteen to twenty-four. Open 24 hours per day.
- It opened in 1997 in a bunker near the Sheppard subway station and filled a gap for youths who are substance user. They hand out clean kits. Anyone can refer.
- Provide counseling, in-house psychiatrist, medical doctor, housing worker, and family reconnection program.
- The peer-to-peer program runs for twelve weeks. Six weeks of training and six weeks of work. Discuss healthy relationships and sexuality, offer presentations to youth and service providers.
- Have three sites: Phoenix, Eva's Satellite at Sheppard and Younge St. and Leslie and the 400.
- They have one bed saved for the Gerstein Centre.
- Megan Dealhoy was thanked for her informative presentation.

Provincial Priority Setting Exercise

Susan Adams provided the context for the exercise as a way for the Locals to report to the provincial policy makers about issues and challenges clients face at the local level. The committee was asked to conduct a SWOT analysis.

For Strengths: Cross-sectoral representation, information sharing

For Weaknesses: We identify gaps and issues and there is no resources to alleviate the gaps. Lack of available funds, access to psychiatric services at the courthouse. Once a week psychiatric services for fitness hearing is not sufficient. Serving clients with sexual offences and arson is difficult to house. Access to transportation.

For Opportunities: Information sharing with the Toronto Regional leads to bringing issues to decision makers and offers the opportunity to address local issues. It also opens doors to respond to the housing needs with the new government

For Threats: Governments come and go, not knowing how we can address the housing situation locally. Long waitlist for housing. When youth transition to adult

services they have to start at the bottom of the waitlist. Bring housing issues to the Toronto Regional for problem solving.

What new initiatives are occurring in your environment that are impacting the work of the HSJCC.

- New courthouse
- Toronto Service Resolution Project

Currently we do not know how these initiatives will impact the Local HSJCC work.

What are the top three issues or challenges in human services and justice coordination in your community?

- Housing
- Access to psychiatric services at the courthouse
- New courthouse

Top Three Initiatives that we will be leading over the next year?

- Address housing needs data gathering at the T-HSJCC meeting
- Continue with Lunch and Learns to include webinars at the courthouse
- Enhance discharge planning

What support would your Local/Regional HSJCC like to receive from the Provincial HSJCC to achieve your mandate?

- Ongoing funding for TTC tokens, Presto cards and food vouchers
- Continue with Lunch and Learn using webinars
- Direction - how can we move forward to address funding for housing needs?
- Direction – how to support Service Resolution Project?

Agency/Organization Updates

No updates were provided

Service Co-ordination Issues

No issues identified

Updates from the T-HSJCC and P-HSJCC

Deferred to next meeting

Presenter for next meeting - TBD

Actions

- Domenica Dileo will research the webinar options
- Susan Adams and Andrew Graham will follow up on the donation drive

Next Meeting

January 21, 2016

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Metro North Court Library, 1000 Finch Avenue West

Presenter – TBD

