

NIAGARA DETENTION CENTRE
MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

MISSION

To plan, coordinate, develop and implement resources for individuals with serious persistent mental health and/or developmental disabilities who are involved with the Niagara Detention Centre

VALUES

- Interdisciplinary team focus (cooperation and respect)
- Offender, inmate, client focused
- Community focused
- Respect diversity
- Value decriminalization of mental health

GOALS

- Coordinate and establish linkages between NDC Staff, CMHA Niagara Staff and other community partners and resources
- Develop and maintain a case management approach
- Educate all partners on mental health, developmental disabilities and addictions
- Decrease recidivism
- Evidence based best practice

GROUND RULES

- Respect each other's perspectives and opinions
- Work within the policies and procedures of the representative groups
- Appropriate communication
- Decisions will be made utilizing consensus
- Professional standards of behaviour
- Equal participation
- Meetings to start and end on time
- Members will strive to be punctual
- Call or send regrets if unable to attend the meeting
- Send an alternate when available
- All pagers, phones, blackberries, etc must be put on vibrate
- Only one conversation at a time
- Agendas to be distributed at least one week prior to the meeting
- Minutes will be distributed within two weeks of the meeting

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- Consensus building
- Focus on the issue, not individuals

MEMBERSHIP

- CMHA Niagara (Justice Community Support Workers and Program Manager)
- NDC (Correctional Officer, Registered Nurse, Social Worker, Health Care Coordinator and Deputy Superintendent)

MEETINGS

4TH Monday of the month
1400 – 1600 Hours

NOTE: This committee was just recently reestablished and is still in the process of revising the terms of reference to accomplish what it wants to now.

Some of the current goals are:

1. To develop a method for identifying mental health clients. A sub committee was formed to develop a simple assessment tool for health care upon intake.
2. To enhance the membership of the NDC Mental Health Committee. Currently it is just NDC and CMHA. If we can get this thing off the ground again we hope to involve more service providers that service mental health clients
3. Formalize reporting from the NDC Committee to the local Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee. The Committee hopes to provide regular updates at the quarterly HSJCC Meetings.
4. Formalize Case Conferencing. It is our plan to discuss cases for the second half of each meeting to discuss what we did right, what we can improve on, etc.
5. Develop an Education and Training Plan. Originally we hoped to have all officers attend Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training, but since that won't be possible, we are looking at a more realistic plan'
6. Develop a plan for data collection and analysis. Currently there are no accurate records to identify how many residents of Niagara Detention Centre have mental health issues. Hopefully the assessment tool will help start this process.
7. To enhance the agenda of the NDC Mental Health Committee. We are starting out simple and manageable and hoping to tackle some of the larger issues in time.

Original – February 26th, 2007

Revised – February 16th, 2011