



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

Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2015

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Metro North Court Library, 1000 Finch Avenue West

Present: Andrew Graham (Co-chair), Cota; Michael Story, Duty Counsel; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Sarah Haslip, T.A. Patterson; Leslie Pringle, Justice; Wayne Willis, CHIRS; Arthur Stratton, Probation and Parole, Black Creek Office; Diana Korn-Hassani, Toronto Police Service; Ryan Fritsch, LAO; Daniel DeSantis, Crown Attorney's Office

Regrets: Susan Adams (Co-chair) Defense Counsel; Debbie Lynch, CTYS, New Outlook; NYG; Amir Butt, Toronto Police Service; Lilliana Gallo, Probation & Parole, Jane St. Office; Lynda Lingard, Toronto Bail Program; Sheila Cressman, Crown Attorney's Office; Jessica Lee, CMHA, Vira Stewart, TSDC

Welcome and Introductions

- Everyone introduced themselves.

Review of November 6, 2014, minutes

- The minutes were approved.

Business Arising from the Minutes

- Justice Leslie Pringle informed the committee that she will be taking over the Admin Judge position at 1000 Finch courthouse. Justice Jack Grossman will be replacing her on the committee in the interim and Justice Riun Shandler, a new judge at the 1000 Finch courthouse, will join the committee in September 2015.
- Justice Leslie Pringle was thanked and acknowledged for her contribution and commitment to the NY-HSJCC committee.
- Andrew Graham reported that he has a contact at the Toronto South Detention Centre (TSDC), Nirmala Budhram, Manger – Intermittent & Infirmary Health Services. He spoke to her about the medication dispensing procedure. The TSDC has a pharmacy in the jail. If they have a signed consent form they are able to help with medication needs and inmates are able to receive five days of medication supplies to clients only if they are released from the TSDC and not the court. It was agreed to formalize the medication dispersing procedure for the TSDC, East Toronto Detention Centre and Maplehurst Correctional Complex and develop a protocol. This initiative will be called “ Seamless Medication

Protocol for Inmates Released from Custody”. Andrew Graham will be the lead. The initiative will be included in the 2015/2016 Work Plan. The goal of the initiative is to gather information and centralize the medication process and share the information with the HSJCC Locals. Domenica Dileo will collate the information on the medication dispensing.

- It was suggested that Nirmala Budhram from the TSDC be invited to present at the next NY-HSJCC meeting. Andrew Graham will invite her.
- The three gaps identified for the Seamless Medication Protocol for Inmates Released from Custody are: 1) Clients needing coverage to obtain medications, e.g. drug card, 2) Discrepancies between medication delivery between those released from jail and those released from court (For example, TSDC has a pharmacy on site and can dispense up to five days of medication to those who are released from there directly.) and finally 3) No reliable, or possibly centralized protocol for staff dispensing medications at detention centres. This dispensing and whether it will be done or not seems to depend on who picks up the phone (Unfortunately this can and has led to a gap in services.)
- Ryan Fritsch suggested that information about the Seamless Medication Protocol for Inmates Released from Custody initiative be taken to the P-HSJCC table.

Lunch and Learns

- Domenica Dileo reported - no update for the Fitness Testing – NCR Lunch and Learn with Susan Adams and Michael Feindel.

Presentation: Ryan Fritsch, Legal Aid Ontario Mental Health and Addiction Strategy

- Presentation slide deck will be distributed with the minutes..
- Legal Aid conducted a formal province-wide consultation between December 2013 and May 2014; the new strategy will be released early this spring.
- In April 2012, LAO initiated development of a Mental Health Strategy with a five-year mandate, which includes a review of all LAO services with ongoing consultations involving stakeholders in the initial and ongoing development of the strategy.
- The MHS is looking at a broader definition of mental health and addiction and how it impacts a variety of stakeholders including how it intersects with LAO. It encompasses family law, criminal law, refugee law, clinic law, etc.
- LAO’s mental health services are offered in a wide variety of contexts. Review all LAO services and mandate through a mental health lens. One in three LAO certificates may go to a client with mental illness. Seventy-three per cent of LAO’s certificate clients are on ODSP, OW or have no income (incarcerated/homeless).
- Reviewing client and service provider needs since mental health clients are not alike and different approaches are required
- Going forward, MHS is exploring potential initiatives with stakeholders, including: pilot projects for new and expanded services in community,

- courthouses and health facilities; training for all staff and empanelled lawyers; development of intake and triage tools, and more
- Relaxed eligibility and expanded legal coverage policies for clients with mental illness.
 - To supplement the Certificate system currently used for lawyers, LAO is exploring more flexible retainer and certificate options to cover the extended needs for some clients and new certificates for MH appeals.
 - Currently under development are staff training programs, updated panel standards, new and expanded programming and intake interview and assessment tools.
 - The Strategy will give the LAO the opportunity to allow stakeholders to match their client's needs with programs and services
 - Considering a mobile legal team
 - On November 2014 it was announced that \$95 million dollars was added to the LAO funds.
 - Ryan works with an advisory committee that includes cross-sector representation as well as people with lived experience. They are developing a framework for a staff training program so lawyers can deal with complex clients to achieve the best service by having specialized competency.
 - Ryan Fritsch was thanked for his informative presentation and the work he's been doing.
 - Ryan Fritsch contact information: fritschr@lao.on.ca

2015/2016 Work Plan

- It was agreed to add the Seamless Medication Protocol for Inmates Released from Custody to the work plan.
- It was suggested to add whether Duty Counsel can inquire about a client's meds on release and remand. If so, what documents do they need? Is a client consent form sufficient?
- Andrew Graham was thanked for his one year contribution to the NY-HSJCC as Co-chair.

Service Coordination Issues

- No issues reported

Updates from the T-HSJCC and P-HSJCC

- Domenica Dileo reported on the T-HSJCC
- Claudia Brabazon from Justice on Target made a presentation and slide decks were distributed.
- Deputy Chief Mike Federico attended the T-HSJCC meeting and said how important mental health issues are for the Police and the community relation officers are becoming more familiar with mental health resources
- The T-HSJCC Complex Care Sub-Committee hired Taylor Newberry Consulting to address the needs and gaps for a Service Resolution process in Toronto. The

consultants will be presenting their finding to the T-HSJCC meeting in March 2015.

Agency/Organization Updates

- No updates reported

Actions

- Domenica Dileo will collate the information on the medication dispensing initiative.
- Andrew Graham will invite Nirmala Budhram from the TSDC to present at the next NY-HSJCC meeting.

Next Meeting

March 5, 2015

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Metro North Court Library, 1000 Finch Avenue West

Presenter – TBD