



**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 7, 2020**  
**12:00 pm to 1:00 pm**  
**Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Present:** Tammy Tinney (Co-chair), NYGH; Dina Zalkind (Co-chair), Duty Counsel; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Alison Mastenbroek, Toronto Bail Program; Riun Shandler, Judiciary; Chantal Huard, Probation and Parole; Scott Skinner, Toronto Network of Specialized Care

**Regrets:** Anna Stanford, Crown Attorney's Office; Sheine Mankovsky, Judiciary; Laura Van Harmelen, CMHA Toronto; Rose Gan, NYGH; Allison Arenburg, VWAP; Andrew Graham, Cota

**Welcome and Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves.

**Review of March 5, 2020 minutes**

Minutes of March 5, 2020 were approved by Dina Zalkind and seconded by Alison Mastenbroek.

**Review Action Items:**

Reviewed and completed.

**Presentation:** Arifah Yusuf is the ED at Lifted by Purpose. A music stress management program. Arifah has a background in SW. The program was founded in 2012 and uses trauma-informed approach for youth ages 16-29, involved with the justice system, and/or living on the margin. The program is 20 weeks in length – this includes 14 weeks of addressing stress management and 6 weeks of individual capacity building. They can provide community hours and a letter of support, are able to hire youth who have completed the program and provide honorarium. Most referrals come from Probation and Parole and alumni. Recently they are going into prison to provide inmates training on grief and loss. Speakers receive honorarium. They have access to a boxing gym. They have developed their own tool kits and wellness plans. Uses HeartMath technology for participants to identify their feelings and triggers. Participants receive a certificate when they complete the program. They have a two-day retreat at the end of the program in Muskoka. The program is provincially funded. There is no catchment.

Use therapistaid.com website to access program resources.  
Arifah was thanked for an informative presentation.

**Annual Members Survey:** It has been circulated, please complete it. Your feedback is important.

### **Lunch and Learns**

The March 26<sup>th</sup> Lunch and Learn was cancelled due to COVID-19. The topic was Opioid, Fentanyl and Crystal Methamphetamine. It will be rescheduled remotely.

The next session will be jointly presented with the West Toronto HSJCC, it will be held virtually on May 28<sup>th</sup> from noon to 1:00 pm on "Building a Collaboration Justice Centre in Toronto's Northwest" with Danielle Scott - has been an Assistant Crown Attorney for twelve years. She is the Crown Lead for the Toronto Northwest Justice Centres project. Kate Siemiatycki is Counsel on the Justice Centres project. Scott McKean leads the City of Toronto's Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan. He is also an embedded member of the Toronto Justice Centres Team.

Learning Objectives:

- MAG's plan to implement Justice Centre initiative in Toronto-Northwest
- MAG's findings about justice-involved communities in Toronto-Northwest

### **How is COVID-19 affecting service delivery in your organization, sector and/or community?**

- Dina reported that working remotely is challenging. There are some staff on site. It has been difficult to access individuals at the jail or Division. New arrest can cause delays because it is difficult to receive instructions remotely. Legal Aid started paying private counsel for bail hearing. Video bail is taking place in courtroom 301.
- Scott Skinner reported that he can be contacted for discharge planning when dealing with clients that have a developmental disability. Observing that more people needing higher support are using the shelter system
- Alison reported that they have two staff in the office. More folks are being released. Trying to address how to reach out and connect with clients. Many challenges.
- Tammy reported that they are using phone calls and video call to serve clients. It is challenging because clients do not have access to video calls. They have permission to see high risk patients with a psychiatrist. They are experiencing delays for court matters.

### **Agency/Organization Updates**

Tammy reported that North York General Branson Site is Moving on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to 2 Champaine Dr.

### **Service Co-ordination Issues**

None

### **Updates from the T-HSJCC and P-HSJCC**

Next Toronto Regional meeting will take place on June 29<sup>th</sup>. The Provincial HSJCC is having virtual biweekly updates meetings. The highlights are circulated to the Local HSJCCs. Concerns expressed at the committee are: face-to-face contact, health conditions, clients not

getting the care they need due to fear, housing, corrections, increase in lack of primary care, untreated diabetes, domestic violence and child protection issues.

**Actions:**

- Domenica will follow up with the logistics for the next Lunch and Learn

**Presenter for the next meeting:** TBD

**Next Meeting:** Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting taking place on Thursday, September 10, 2020 from 12 pm to -1:00 pm.