

# Human Services & Justice

Provincial Human Services and Justice  
Coordinating Committee

2011 Annual Report



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# Message from the Provincial HSJCC Co-Chairs

We are pleased to provide the annual report of the Provincial Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee (HSJCC). Over the past year, our organization, which consists of representatives from the 14 Regional HSJCCs, has met bi-monthly, with an agenda to coordinate and collaborate on provincial issues that have an impact on the human service and justice system.

The Provincial HSJCC also includes ex-officio members from five Provincial Ministries (Attorney General, Children and Youth Services, Community and Social Services, Community Safety and Correctional Services and Health and Long-Term Care), Connex Ontario, Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, Ontario Provincial Police, Correctional Service of Canada, Canadian Mental Health Association Ontario, and the Community Networks of Specialized Care.

Since the release of the “Commission on the Reform of Ontario’s Public Services,” we have been mindful of the need to maximize limited (and possibly reduced) resources. As a result, the Steering Committee began to explore how we could re-structure the committee. Our goals are to provide greater opportunities for collaboration with both community and government partners, and to increase our capacity to conduct research and provide resources that address the diverse needs of our clients across the province. We would like to thank Canadian Mental Health Association Ontario, and in particular, Uppala Chandrasekera and Michelle Gold for the tremendous time and effort that they have devoted to this process.

We would also like to thank Linda Montgomery, our Executive Coordinator, who moved on to another job in May. For the past year, Linda provided us with essential and consistent administrative support during a time of many changes.

In keeping with our mandate to enhance service delivery to our clients, the Provincial HSJCC will continue to provide support and resources to the Regional and Local Committees, and to establish further partnerships with community and government organizations.

Sincerely,



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# Accomplishments of the Provincial HSJCC

One of the main achievements of the Provincial HSJCC in 2011 was the successful Provincial Human Services and Justice Coordinating Conference that we hosted in Toronto from November 21-23, 2011. Titled *Human Service and Justice: Accomplishments, Challenges and Opportunities*, this conference focused on a range of themes related to criminal justice, human services, mental health and addictions. The conference showcased accomplishments and changes taking place in the human services and justice sectors.

The conference featured multiple keynote speakers including Ron Ellis, Former Toronto Maple Leaf, Chief Mike Ewles, Durham Regional Police Chief, and Louise Bradley, President of the Mental Health Commission of Canada. There were 328 conference participants. Over 35 presentations and workshops took place during the conference. Many of the conference presentations have since been made available online through the PHSJCC website. To access the conference program and the presentations, visit: <http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/conference2011.aspx>

In 2011, we also engaged multiple provincial policy initiatives. Currently we are in the process of developing a web-based directory of police and mental health education initiatives across Canada to share best practices for education on police/mental health issues.

Throughout 2010, we completed a provincial policy project on police and mental health issues and released the final report in January 2011. The report, titled *Police & Mental Health: A Critical Review of Joint Police/Mental Health Collaborations in Ontario*, offers a provincial examination of issues related to police/mental health collaboration, and highlights successes and challenges of collaboration. To access the report, visit: [http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/Uploads/PHSJCC\\_Police-MH\\_Final\\_Report\\_January\\_31\\_2011.pdf](http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/Uploads/PHSJCC_Police-MH_Final_Report_January_31_2011.pdf)

In February 2011, we provided advice to Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) recommending that the LAO provide a modified application process, facilitated by individualized support, which would ensure that HSJCC clients are able to access the essential services provided by the LAO. To access the submission, visit: [http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/Uploads/PHSJCC\\_Letter\\_to\\_Legal\\_Aid\\_Ontario\\_February\\_10\\_2011.pdf](http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/Uploads/PHSJCC_Letter_to_Legal_Aid_Ontario_February_10_2011.pdf)

In December 2011, we provided advice to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, recommending that the Safe Streets and Communities Act (Bill C-10) be amended so that the individual circumstances of persons with mental health disabilities and other human service needs, including those with mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, acquired brain injuries, drug and alcohol addictions, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, are taken into consideration when determining penalties. To access the submission, visit: [http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/Uploads/PHSJCC\\_Letter\\_re\\_Crime\\_Bill\\_December132011.pdf](http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/Uploads/PHSJCC_Letter_re_Crime_Bill_December132011.pdf)

In February 2012, we developed an information guide, *Strategies for Community Service Providers for Engaging in Communication with Correctional Facilities in Ontario*. This document consists of strategies for community service providers for engaging in communication with correctional centres across Ontario to help increase communication and coordination across the intersectoral system. To access the Info Guide, visit:

<http://www.hsicc.on.ca/Uploads/HSJCC%20Corrections%20Info%20Guide%20Final%20February%202012%20v2.pdf>

Throughout 2011, we also produced the Provincial HSJCC Newsletter, a quarterly publication that offers information about the initiatives of the Provincial, Regional and Local HSJCCs, information on new and promising practices, new research and articles, as well as educational and networking opportunities occurring throughout the province. To access the newsletters, visit: <http://www.hsicc.on.ca/QuarterlyNewsletter.aspx>

# Accomplishments of Local & Regional HSJCCs

HSJCC	Highlights from 2011
<b>Algoma Local HSJCC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emotionally Disturbed Individual form implemented by police and hospital to facilitate the exchange of information.</li> <li>• CIT training – 2 sessions.</li> <li>• Exceeded 100 individuals through the Mental Health Court.</li> <li>• Communication sharing protocol and form between the correctional facility (Algoma Treatment and Remand Center and CMHA) presented at the Provincial HSJCC conference.</li> </ul>
<b>Cochrane District Local HSJCC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of the report “Review of Crisis Services and Programs for the ‘Common Client’ in Times of Crisis: Findings and Recommendations.” The review focuses on the common client’s trajectory via the health care system in times of crisis. The purpose of the review is to identify systemic changes within the Cochrane District that, if implemented, would facilitate and improve the client’s treatment journey in times of crisis.</li> </ul>
<b>Simcoe Muskoka Local HSJCC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of a mental health court: previously there have been no mental health specific courts in Simcoe-Muskoka but as a result of collaboration at the Regional HSJCC table, a mental health court has been established in Barrie.</li> <li>• Area educational sessions – The Simcoe-Muskoka HSJCC worked in collaboration with each of our four area advisory groups - Barrie, Orillia, Midland, Collingwood - to plan and deliver four educational sessions in these areas. The sessions were designed to be relevant to service providers in each community and offer opportunities for discussion and networking. The four sessions were: “First Contact- navigating the justice system,” “Anger Management”, “A Morning of Networking- HSJCC information and collaboration” and “A Showcase of Services, Collingwood.”</li> <li>• On May 17<sup>th</sup>, the Simcoe Muskoka HSJCC hosted “Closer to Home,” a one day conference for 150 delegates. The conference was focused on discussing issues that may impact us as justice related service providers. Topics included PTSD, human trafficking, sexual exploitation and internet crime, Bill 168, and mindfulness and self-care. The conference was well attended and feedback has been positive.</li> <li>• Supporting Crisis Intervention Team Training for local police services- In 2010 the Simcoe Muskoka HSJCC helped launch one week CIT training for Barrie Police Service. This training was so successful that in 2011 Barrie Police Service funded the continuation of this training to an additional 20 officers. Plans are currently underway to help launch similar training with OPP and Midland Police Service in 2012/13.</li> </ul>

<p><b>South East Regional HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LEAD</b> L – Lanark County Mental Health and Police Services (or Lennox and Addington or Liaison) E – Emergency Department A – Ambulance Services D – Diversion</li> </ul> <p>This comprehensive training began in Lanark County and has been adopted by the other four local areas of the South East Regional HSJCC, hence the variety of names. Training for crisis workers, emergency room staff, police officers and other first responders has resulted in hundreds of service providers sharing in two-day education sessions. Guidebooks, templates and other resources including human resources are shared across the locals to ensure the evidence-based materials are used. Training interventions include local speakers on services, people with lived experience and case study discussions. As a result of this work, protocols are developed locally to ensure that there are consistent collaborative responses from various providers.</p>
<p><b>Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant (HNHB) (LHIN 4) Regional HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The regional branch has initiated a research study regarding persons with mental illness and or mental disorders who have been charged with offences throughout our LHIN 4 area and size or scope of services delivered by each diversion program in the area. Specifically the study will identify : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of services provided in each community</li> <li>• # crisis intervention training sessions for police</li> <li>• # of individuals in court support in each geographic program per year</li> <li>• # of persons in court support program over the last 5 years</li> <li>• # of encounters (need to describe this) with court support workers</li> <li>• # of face-face visits with clients within the court support program</li> <li>• # of non face-to-face visits with clients in the court support program (telephone, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The short term outcome is to provide the mental health diversion workers and the HSJCC committee with detailed and accurate knowledge of workloads and client flow in each funded diversion area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Niagara Local HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Niagara HSJCC has successfully launched its COAST Niagara program. It has surpassed its target of total clients for the past year serving 550 clients to its targeted 220. Early data returns indicate success in many areas. For example, COAST Niagara has surpassed the hospital diversion target by 137%. COAST is changing the crisis landscape in Niagara demonstrating the ability to service and maintain individuals successfully in their community while helping to decrease unnecessary hospital visits and develop more positive interactions with police.</li> <li>• Niagara HSJCC engaged a consultant to study the merger possibilities of Withdrawal Management Program (Detox) and the Crisis Beds Program (Safe Beds) with a preliminary report scheduled for August 2012.</li> </ul>

<b>Brantford Local HSJCC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged in an inquest into the death of a jail inmate with mental health and substance abuse issues that occurred two years ago.</li> </ul>
<b>Hamilton Local HSJCC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed a proposal for a recidivists' program for the local detention centre. They are currently seeking funding to develop the program.</li> </ul>
<b>Halton Regional HSJCC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opened a Community Treatment Court. This Court is designed to provide a more holistic approach to address special needs offenders.  Halton's new Community Treatment Court has been developed through the cooperative efforts of representatives from the Crown Attorney's office (both Provincial and Federal), the defence bar, the Halton Regional Police Service and the Canadian Mental Health Association, Halton Region Branch (CMHA-HRB).  Community Treatment Court will be at the Court House in Burlington and start on an incremental schedule at once per month, progressing to twice per month, and finally with a projected sitting frequency of once per week in the Fall of this year. All referrals are made through CMHA-HRB.</li> <li>Established a Probation and Parole Initiative. The CMHA-HRB began to work in partnership with Halton Probation and Parole on April 4, 2012. The involvement of the Justice program's Release from Custody's Case Workers means that more individuals with a mental illness are served in the Halton region. Through Case Management, specific mental health services are provided to those in need.</li> <li>Engaged in developing Halton Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Strategy: The FASD Subcommittee of the Halton Human Service and Justice Coordinating Committee (HHSJCC) was established in 2010. The four member subcommittee met on a regular basis to increase our knowledge of FASD and plan next steps. It was decided the first step in developing an FASD strategy would be to host a Halton FASD conference for the purpose of raising awareness and increasing knowledge of FASD. On June 8, 2011 senior managers or their delegates from various community and hospital based organizations (representing mental health, child and youth, justice, school boards, addiction services, public health, parents of children with FASD) were invited to the first ever Halton FASD Conference, organized by the FASD subcommittee and supported by the HSJCC. Through this conference it was confirmed unanimously by the participants that FASD in Halton was an issue that needed to be addressed. The participants representing the various hospital and community based organizations committed to participate in the development of a collaborative strategy to address FASD in Halton.  After the initial conference on FASD in June 2011 the Halton FASD subcommittee continued to meet to ensure the momentum to move forward continued. On February 17, 2012 the FASD subcommittee organized a Halton FASD planning day, resulting in the creation of "A Vision for Addressing FASD in Halton". One component of the vision was</li> </ul>



	<p>to create a Halton FASD leadership strategy. Seven participants present at the planning day volunteered to be part of creating that strategy. On May 10, 2012 the Halton FASD leadership group met and identified the need to establish a draft terms of reference to help guide our work. The draft terms of reference were created on June 5, 2012 and are currently being prepared for distribution to the larger leadership group for discussion and approval. The FASD leadership group will meet on June 21, 2012 to continue our work of moving forward with a Halton FASD strategy.</p>
<p><b>Waterloo-Wellington Regional HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On February 16, 2012 the Regional HSJCC and the 3 local branches of the HSJCC (Cambridge, Guelph, Kitchener) in partnership with The Central West Community Network of Specialized Care collaborated in organizing and presenting a one day, free conference titled: “Dual Diagnosis/Mental Health in the Justice System: Walking A Fine Line.”</li> <li>• The Guelph HSJC, supported by the Regional HSJCC, printed credit card size orange resource cards that listed many of the resources and contact numbers in mental health and addictions, food bank, shelters, crisis centers, etc., that exist in the Guelph-Wellington region. These cards are handed out by Police Services, Community Agencies, and hospitals.</li> <li>• The Cambridge HSJCC sponsored a “Marijuana and Psychosis Forum” in the evening that was targeted to high school youths; it was well received by the young people who attended, the educators, the community, and the justice and police personnel in the audience.</li> <li>• Kitchener HSJCC continues to support community efforts to alleviate the difficulties inherent in obtaining prisoners belongings from correctional facilities. Progress has been made at the local level (Waterloo region) regarding the prisoner belongings issue. A community agency (The Working Center) and the police are working together to re-route prisoner property at the time of arrest so that it is stored at the Working Centre rather than sent to Maplehurst. Forms/releases are currently being developed to track the property.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grey Bruce Local HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference took place called Mental Health and Justice: through today’s lens. South West region delegates attended totaling over 140 people.</li> <li>• A Mental Health Court Symposium was held in Elgin drawing approximately 100 attendees.</li> <li>• In Grey Bruce, we are working on family law conference in the fall and a bail program.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Northeast Regional HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of Reference have been translated into French. We have a large francophone population in the north, and this is our defining document.</li> <li>• Elected a mental health consumer as co-chair of the committee.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Now providing an honorarium to consumers and family members who attend regional meetings. The concept behind this is that everyone else at the table is being paid to be there, so consumers and family members should be as well.</li> <li>• Several years ago, our committee produced a guide on dual diagnosis and the justice system. Some of our members have spent time updating and revising this guide. It will be published online by the end of this month.</li> <li>• Have started using the OTN videoconference service, and it has increased attendance. Our region covers a huge amount of land, and travel has always been an issue, both in terms of time and money, and videoconferencing has been a success so far.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Northern Shores Local HSJCC</b> (represents the Districts of Nipissing, Parry Sound, and Temiskaming)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for youth mental health court outreach workers received in Parry Sound and Nipissing.</li> <li>• Additional funding for housing rent supplements units received in Nipissing for substance abuse clientele; this clientele is often in conflict with the law. The provision of housing is a necessary input for any recovery process. Transitional housing for supervised community placements for forensic clients (4 beds) now fully operational in North Bay.</li> <li>• In response to priorities, ACL agencies with NS HSJCC funding are organizing training workshop for staff dealing with HSJCC related clients.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sudbury-Manitoulin Local HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We hosted an education session for community service providers on how and where to access Mental Health, Addictions and Developmental Services. It was very successful with over 80 people attended.</li> <li>• We have been working with the Crown Attorney's office on creating a monthly mental health court. A draft outline has been developed.</li> <li>• Our membership has increased to include more partners from the addictions sector and we continue to look for new opportunities to bring new members to the table.</li> <li>• Our biggest achievement for the 2011-12 year was the piloting of a Mental Health Court here in Renfrew County. We have named our court 672 Court and it usually sits on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 1100hrs. Our 672 Court committee then meets at 1630hrs the last Thursday of the month to discuss/review and revise operations.</li> <li>• Our Mental Health Services continue to have great working relationships with the various police forces in our large county. Many officers sit on our HSJCC and even more have participated in our LEAD training held annually in the fall. We are very pleased to be going into our 6th year of providing training to various first responders on how best to assist a mentally ill person in crisis.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Diversion Program was very busy last year with 15 diversions alone between April and Oct.</li> <li>• The police continue to utilize our Crisis Team frequently and this partnership allows them to exercise their discretion in many precharge diversions also once they see an individual has some immediate support, even if only short term.</li> <li>• Our focus for the next HSJCC calendar year will continue to be the tweaking and improvement of our 672 Court and to start the ball rolling again on a Property Transfer Protocol with OCDC.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Toronto Regional HSJCC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established complexity work group to address service access issues for clients who have difficulty accessing appropriate services due to their complex needs.</li> <li>• Worked with Toronto Police Services Board Mental Health Sub-Committee to review service access issues and police relationships locally.</li> <li>• Continued lunch n’ learns in local HSJCCs to educate personnel in human service and justice sectors.</li> <li>• Developed a plan to improve the Police Access Line in cooperation with Connex Ontario.</li> </ul>

# Provincial HSJCC Financial Report

	Apr 09 - Mar 10	Apr - 10 - Mar 11	Apr 11 - Mar 12
Funding Allocation	40,154	41,057	41,064
LHIN - One-time grant	12,000	0	12,000
Face 2 Face	10,000	0	0
Total funding allocation	<u>\$62,154</u>	<u>\$41,057</u>	<u>\$53,064</u>
Expenses:			
Travel Expenses	3,495	6,181	5,348
Other Purchased Services	1,398	3,567	18,476
Funds - Local HSJCC	8,000	12,000	0
Conference	16,169	1,021	12,205
Meeting Expenses	2,813	2,020	1,053
Total Expenses	<u>\$31,875</u>	<u>\$24,789</u>	<u>\$37,083</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	<u><b>\$30,279</b></u>	<u><b>\$16,268</b></u>	<u><b>\$15,981</b></u>

# Looking Ahead: Provincial HSJCC Priorities for 2012

## ***Priorities of the Provincial HSJCC***

The Provincial HSJCC conducted another priority setting exercise this year. Based on the findings of the *2009 HSJCC Needs Assessment*, we created an inventory of potential policy projects that the Provincial HSJCC could undertake to strengthen our provincial capacity. Based on the policy issues identified, we carried out a priority setting exercise to determine the policy projects to undertake. When setting priorities for policy projects, we considered projects that build on existing successes, engage multiple sectors, can benefit Ontarians in contact with the law, have the possibility of resolving an issue in the near term, and address the issue in a way that builds momentum at the Provincial HSJCC.

The top five provincial priority issues that we are working to address this year are:

1. Clients with complex needs, including individuals with dual diagnosis, concurrent disorders, individuals considered “high risk” and the “common client”
2. Access to and availability of psychiatrists and psychiatric assessments
3. Youth
4. Release from court custody, including bail support programs, access to transportation and retrieving prisoner belongings
5. Mental health courts

## ***Restructuring of the Provincial HSJCC***

At the Provincial HSJCC meeting on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, the Provincial HSJCC Steering Committee proposed a restructuring of the Provincial HSJCC network to increase the capacity of the Provincial Committee and enhance its effectiveness. The Steering Committee also recommended establishing a Provincial HSJCC Secretariat to increase staff support for the HSJCC network.

### *Rationale for restructuring the Provincial HSJCC network:*

- Need to align, expand and coordinate supporting activities of the HSJCCs through a secretariat function.
- Need for more efficient use of volunteer time and to maximize opportunities to participate in HSJCC network.
- Need for the Provincial HSJCC to better engage the membership of the Regional and Local HSJCCs through establishing ongoing, issue-based working groups.

- Need for the Provincial HSJCC to effectively meet expectations from HSJCC-affiliated Government Ministries as well as general objective of demonstrating value for money.
- Need to increase the effectiveness of the Provincial HSJCC.

*Benefits of restructuring the Provincial HSJCC network:*

- Increased staff support will increase the capacity of the Provincial, Regional and Local HSJCCs to enhance service coordination at the provincial level.
- Enhanced communication and knowledge transfer functions of the Provincial HSJCC will better engage the membership of the Regional and Local HSJCCs.
- Strengthened Provincial HSJCC will enhance working relationships with Government Ministries and will facilitate its being a more effective catalyst effecting positive change.

At the Provincial HSJCC meeting on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, discussion continued on restructuring the Provincial HSJCC and a motion was passed to accept in principle a plan to restructure the Provincial HSJCC.

The expected course of events is as follows:

- The Steering Committee will submit a new Terms of Reference to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to approve restructuring of the Provincial HSJCC.
- Upon approval from the MOHLTC, we will share a new optimized model for a restructured Provincial HSJCC with affiliated Ministries and request that some financial contribution for the Secretariat functions be provided in order for it to carry out this enhanced level of work.

The Steering Committee has begun to draft a work plan for the transition period, which will include various activities to be completed over the summer months. During the transition period, the Provincial HSJCC will continue to carry out its normal work.

The Steering Committee is working to establish the restructured Provincial HSJCC as well as the new Secretariat by the Fall/Winter of 2012.

## Provincial HSJCC Membership List

Below is a complete, up-to-date list of the Provincial HSJCC membership. Currently, the HSJCC Membership Database Project is underway engaging in a process to update all of the membership lists from the Local and Regional HSJCCs. The HSJCC Membership Database will be made available in Fall 2012.

<b>Provincial HSJCC Co-chairs</b>	<b>Vicky Huehn</b> , Executive Director, Frontenac Community Mental Health Services	613-544-1356 ext. 2401, <a href="mailto:vhuehn@fcmhs.ca">vhuehn@fcmhs.ca</a>
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### Regional HSJCC Representatives (Voting Members)

\*PHSJCC Steering Committee Member

Regional HSJCC	Chair, Co-chairs and Delegate	Contact Information
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