



Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2021
Noon- 1:00 pm
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present: Dr. Samim Hasham, Clinical Pharmacist Consultant (Co-chair); Tazio Clarke (Co-chair), Victim Services Toronto; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Robert Koslowski, Peer Worker; Sharon Williams, Scarborough Hospital; Scott Skinner, Surrey Place; Greg McInnes, Salvation Army (on behalf of Becky Paonessa); Erwin Black, Cota; Patrick Whiffen, Probation and Parole; Michael Darling, City of Toronto; Sheribu T, CAMH; Jason Balgopal, Crown Attorney's Office; Joy Boatswain, Centennial College; Barry Sharp, Salvation Army

Regrets: Cecilia Kwok, Probation and Parole; Rachel Ross-Vance, CMHA

Welcome and Introductions:

Everyone introduced themselves. Barry Sharp was welcomed to the committee.

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

- Jason noted that Crown Attorney's Office has moved from using the telephone to using video to communicate with people in conflict with the law. If one does not attend video court the ramifications are that a bench warrant may be issued and clients have to virtually attend court to have the bench warrant rescinded. The court set date system can not stop.
- Joy informed the committee that Centennial winter semester is starting January 18th. They run academic upgrading as well as literacy programs at the Toronto East Detention Centre. Currently their programs are online. They are able to provide technological devices if the student does not have access to them.
- Barry informed the committee that he is replacing Becky Paonessa. He is active in all the courthouses providing spiritual support and runs a positive lifestyle program which helps clients with day-to-day life.
- Sherubi noted that she was a former student of Sharon Williams and is working at CAMH in the nursing resource unit and as a psychiatric nurse at Toronto South Detention Centre (TSDC).
- Michael informed the committee that he works at the City of Toronto with youth in conflict with the law. He noted that technology is not accessible to his clients. The

lockdown is affecting client's employment or lack of and he is trying to encourage clients to stay positive. There are limited paid programs taking place virtually and he is continuing to work with other agencies to provide support to their clients.

- Tazio noted that he is trying to navigate the virtual landscape and he is going in person and/or virtually when there is court.
- Samim provides clinical consultation at the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Clinics and teaches at Mc Master University and the Faculty at Adler College.

Presentation: Brittney Wilson from Building Up

For the PowerPoint slides deck click the link below:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-oQMCdpl2X2C1GmOVOGGUu3zV_4JLg8D-zCJeB8qxk/edit?usp=sharing

- Building Up is a non-profit **social enterprise** and a **pre-apprenticeship program**.
- Mission: To train, employ and prepare Torontonians faced with barriers to employment for successful long term careers in the trades.
- They work with people who are in conflict with the law.

Eligibility:

- 18 years+
- Available Mon-Fri: 7am to 4pm
- Legally able to work in Canada
- ESL/LINC Level 6 +
- Flexible with working in all types of work conditions
- Willingness to commute to various sites
- Capable of lifting 50 lbs +

It is a 16 weeks program often paid \$14/hr

Support is individualized: They recognize that different people need different types of support

Everyone will have a Case Manager that will guide them throughout the pre-apprenticeship program. Most participants live in TCH.

- Continuity of Support - Long Term: participants must be actively prepared to move on from Building Up and into a career in the trades. On-going, in-house counselling support provided
- Further questions? Contact us at brittney@buildingup.ca

Action Items

- Scarborough Resource Directory. Working on setting a meeting. If you are interested in joining the committee contact Domenica. Some of the members who expressed interest are unable to participate.
- **Review and Approval of Minutes of November 4, 2020**
- Deferred

Review Workplan for 2020- 2021

- It was noted that the objective and goals were met. The committee agreed to continue with the same budget to support the TTC tokens and food vouchers at the Scarborough courthouse. Food insecurity issues have increased due to services being closed during COVID. The distribution is overseen by CMHA.
- The committee agreed to meet five times per year; May, September, November, January and March on the first Wednesday of the month, unless there is a holiday from Noon to 1:00 pm. If so, the meeting will be scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of the month. We will continue to meet virtually until further notice.
- The committee agreed to have the Lunch and Learns virtually until further notice.

Agency/Organization Updates

See above

Lunch and Learns

- Affirming Trans and Non- Binary Gender Identifies session took place in November. Went well. Twenty-nine people participated.
- Working on a Legal Lunch and Learn session to address the impact of COVID on the legal/ justice sector.
- Samim provided a summary of the meeting/brainstorm session with Debbie Douglas, ED at OCASI and education manager Sajedeh Zahraei that took place. Understanding what/how is racism/classism/etc. and how they impact individual's health and justice equity during COVID and after COVID.
- Discussed Anti-Racism Series to address the marginalized community gaps and needs, provide leadership by addressing health equity during and after COVID. Potential to move the series to a local conference. S-HSJCC Co-chairs taking the lead on this initiative.
- Support for a Lunch and Learn series on Anti-Racism education/training took place at the meeting. Members noted the benefits.
- Suggest to change the workplan objectives to reflect racialized community challenges and enhance anti-racism education and engagement.

Service Coordination/Resolution Issues

None

Updates from T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC.

Next Toronto Regional meeting will take place on January 25th. The Provincial HSJCC this fall will be virtual.

Presenter for the next meeting: TBD

Next Meeting:

Virtually Wednesday, March 3, 2021 from Noon-1:00 pm.

