



Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2021
Noon- 1:00 pm
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present: Tazio Clarke (Co-chair), Victim Services Toronto; Rachel Ross-Vance, CMHA; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Robert Koslowski, Peer Worker; Jason Balgopal, Crown Attorney's Office; Valeria Danieli, P-HSJCC; Dana Riley, E. Fry Toronto

Regrets: Dr. Samim Hasham, Clinical Pharmacist Consultant (Co-chair); Nirmala Muthyala, Probation and Parole; Region; Joy Boatswain, Centennial College; Patrick Whiffen, Probation and Parole.

Land Acknowledgment

Tazio noted the Land Acknowledgement recognizing the history of the indigenous people & their contribution to the land we stand on.

Welcome and Introductions:

Everyone introduced themselves

Review of September 15, 2021 minutes

The minutes of the September 15, 2021 meeting was deferred to next meeting.

Presentation: Dana Riley from the Elizabeth Fry Toronto on *Supporting Individuals Impacted by the Criminal Justice System from an Intersectional Lens*

- PowerPoint slides will be circulated with the minutes.
- Learning Objectives reviewed: highlight systems core values and missions that should be implemented while supporting black individuals impacted by the criminal system using intersectional lens; explore and share insights on the barriers & challenges that impact Black individuals; share my experience to further our understanding on the impact of the criminal justice system; identify tools and practices that support Black individuals; explore how systems and organizations can collaborate
- Intersectionality definition: the acknowledgement that everyone has their own unique experience of discrimination and oppression
- Identified systems core values and mission and the impact of systems and social network

- Dana shared her own lived experience as a Black woman going through the criminal justice system. This included; loss of identity, feelings of shame, separation from loved ones and isolation
- Tools and practices to support were discussed: holistic approach, give people a voice, be trauma informed, non-judgmental, active listening, root causes, restorative justice and continued support
- Takeaways: What does innocent until proven guilty look like? What does serve and protect look like? What does successful reintegration look like? What does harm reduction look like to you? What does community support look like to you?

Dana was thanked for the informative and interactive presentation.

Themes discussed: Discussion ensued regarding the importance of having people with lived experience share their insight and expertise on this committee.

The impact of having a criminal record in relation to be employment. The negative effects of being charged and when dismissed the CPIC is still there. This is based on insider's knowledge. It was noted that the root causes are impacted by the historical context of Black people's experience. It was acknowledged the importance of sharing lived experience through the lens of a Black woman to inform awareness on the impact of the justice system on Black individuals and family members going through it.

- Dana was thanked for her informative and insightful presentation. She was invited to come back for another presentation.

Action Items

Reviewed and completed

Priority Setting Exercise:

Domenica provided the context for the Priority Setting Exercise. The Provincial HSJCC is gathering input from all the Locals and Regional to develop a work plan for the next three years. To guide our input the following questions will be addressed to identify priorities:

- 1) What new initiatives are occurring in our environment that are impacting the work of our HSJCC.
- 2) How are these initiatives changing or shaping the HSJCC's role in our community? (Please consider the impact of the COVID-19)
- 3) What are the **top three issues** or challenges in human services and justice coordination in our community?
- 4) What are the top three priority areas that S-HSJCC will be leading over the next year?
- 5) What support would the S-HSJCC like to receive from the Provincial HSJCC to achieve our mandate?
- 6) What should the P-HSJCC start, stop or continue doing?

<p>Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSJCC has become a leading coordinator of information sharing for many agencies • HSJCC is an established voice/advocacy role • HSJCC is great for networking 	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of access to phones/ computers to connect to the Court • Virtual care challenges- with respect to assessments in clinical settings and establishing rapport in case management • The New Toronto Courthouse – The geographical distance to attend will be a challenge for many. • Meeting scheduling conflict • Inconsistence participation/low meeting attendance
<p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSJCC has an advocacy role • Virtual care advantage, one can access service by providing virtual hubs for clients using technology and a safe space • We need the Provincial HSJCC to advocate for funds to support technology hubs for people who have no access to technology, Wi-Fi and/or how to use it • To increase our ability to operate with virtual technology and outreach to a wider scale • Outreach by re-inviting the Scarborough Hospital, East Detention Centre, Legal Aid, Cota, Probation and Parole, CHIRS and Police 	<p>Threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual care or justice, not everyone has access to technology, internet or how to use it • MH clients were flagged in the in-person courthouse, but will not be flagged for mental health support in the remote world • The New Bail Centre and New Courthouse – the distance to get there

The top 3 issues and challenges:

1. COVID restrictions have impacted access to the court system for the most vulnerable involved in the criminal justice system
2. The New Courthouse and New Bail Centre
3. Recruitment of committee members and encouraging attendance to regular meetings – Domenica will send out two meeting reminders, one way in advance and one the day before

The top 3 priority: areas that S-HSJCC will be leading over the next year?

1. Anti-Indigenous and Anti-Black Racism education and engagement
2. To address the impact of COVID-19 on services specific to accessing technology and justice
3. Meaningful engagement with people with lived experience

What new initiatives are occurring in our environments that are impacting the work of our HSJCC.

- New Toronto Courthouse and Regional Bail Centre. Both are opportunities and challenges.

What support to receive from the Provincial HSJCC: strong advocacy by making statements to inform policy. To engage with more people with lived experience and ensure meaningful participation as defined by people with lived experience as well Anti-Racism strategies and educational tools.

- Provincial HSJCC conducted an Anti-Racism survey. Findings to be presented.
- Provincial HSJCC people with lived experience advisory committee has developed guidelines for enhancing *the Engagement of People with Lived Experience Across the HSJCC Network*. It will be circulated with the HSJCC network.

Themes discussed: Ways to assist individuals successfully connect to virtual court, addressing Anti-Indigenous and Anti-Black Racism. Lack of traditional members participation at committee meetings. How can we facilitate the connection for people going through the court system?

Agency/Organization updates

Jason noted that slowly the courts are moving to in-person. However still using virtual court. Rachel also noted that the MH and J Diversion program is also moving slowly to in-person. Dana reported that E Fry is doing out reach in Scarborough. Will send information to Domenica for circulation.

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

Deferred to next meeting

Legal Aid barriers and challenges?

Deferred to next meeting

Update on Video Bail

Deferred to next meeting

Updates from T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC

Domenica reported on the following:

-Next T-HSJCC will be on December 9, 2021

-P-HSJCC virtual conference will be on November 16-17 titled "Community Justice: Transforming practices in a new world"

Action Items

- Domenica will send a meeting invite for the next meeting after this meeting and reminder prior to the meeting.

Presenter for next meeting: Valeria Danieli will present on the Provincial HSJCC Anti-Racism Committee

Next Meeting: Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting taking place on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 from 12 pm to -1:00 pm.