



Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2023
Noon - 1:00 pm
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present: Dr. Samim Hasham, Clinical Pharmacist Consultant (Co-chair); Dana Riley (Co-chair) PWLE; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Jason Balgopal, Crown Attorney's Office; Valeria Danieli, P-HSJCC; Erwin Black, Cota; Bradley Scarr, Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO); Sophia Brown, City of Toronto; Imtiaz Moursalien, TAIBU Community Health Centre - TCSS; Kristy Hazelton; Cota; Melissa Maguire, SolGen; Julienne Fernie, SolGen; Muthyala Nirmala, SolGen; Robert Koslowski, Peer Worker; Kristina Dobosz, Community Network of Specialized Care, Toronto Region; Kyra Schrader, Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO); Sarah Hannaford, YMCA Youth Gambling; Alison Mastenbroek, Toronto Bail Program

Regrets: Rachel Ross-Vance, CMHA Toronto; Tammy Alston, CAMH Toronto; Graham Borker, CMHA Toronto

Call-in: None

Land Acknowledgment:

Valeria noted the Land Acknowledgement recognizing the history of the indigenous people & their contribution to the land we stand on. It was suggested that we share the Land Acknowledgement among the committee members.

Welcome and Introductions:

Everyone introduced themselves.

Action Items:

Reviewed and completed.

Review of November 2, 2022 minutes

Corrections were made. It was agreed that the amended minutes be circulated. The minutes with corrections were approved by Brad Scarr and second by Robert Koslowski.

Presentation: Bail Program with Alison Mastenbroek

-The Bail Program has operated for many years in the Toronto courthouses. As well as at the Toronto South Detention Centre (TSDC)

- The Bail Program is supervising 1700 people
- They have an Enhanced Community Coordinator
- Two principles that the Bail Program operates from 1) presumption of innocent 2) fair treatment of all people
- Many of their clients are vulnerable
- Toronto has the largest Bail Program in the province. Please note that other Bail Programs are also run by the Elizabeth Fry Society and John Howard Society
- The main goal is to address the likelihood that people will attend court.
An example was provided - Joe has no support and was referred to the Bail Program. He was charged with a violent assault. Bail staff connected him to mental health services and he was able to see a psychiatrist. He was diagnosed with bipolar. It took about a year to help him get housing.
- Bail Program referrals can be made by Duty or Private Counsel. The person's non-compliance history is reviewed. If there are several non-compliances, they may not assist the person. However, they will review each case by case. The client needs to understand the consequences of non-compliance. If the court accepts the plan, then the Bail Program staff will work with the client and initiate a supervision plan. New clients usually come into the office once per week. In some cases, they will see clients at the TSDC, to assess for eligibility.
- Last year two hundred people were released to the Bail Program from the TSDC.
- There is a percentage of people who are not well enough to report every week due to significant mental health issues and/or disabilities. The Enhanced Program staff will make arrangements to see these clients in the community. Staff can take clients to their probation appointments, to medical appts, etc
- Alison was thanked for a very informative and interactive presentation.

Lunch and Learns

Domenica provided the report. The Anti-Racism Series' third session of 5 will take place on January 26th. The topic is Voices/ Lived Experience. The registration information for this session was circulated. The feedback has been phenomenal. 217 registered, and 97 attended session 2.

Review Workplan for 2022-2023

What we accomplished and what future areas to consider?

- The committee's goals were completed. We held 5 meetings and had two Lunch and Learns. It was agreed to continue with having 5 meetings per year. However, one of these meetings is to be a mega meeting with all of the Toronto Local HSJCCs.

Who is missing at the table?

Themes discussed: Need to reach out to the Toronto Police and Scarborough Health Network. If you have suggestions please inform Domenica.

New courthouse updates/Impact on S-HSJCC meetings discussion?

- To monitor the New Courthouse impact. One of the regular meetings is to be a mega meeting with the other Toronto Local HSJCCs. The purpose of this meeting is mainly to address the impact of the New Courthouse on our client population.

Virtual/In-person meetings format for 2023-24?

-Members acknowledged the benefits of having virtual meetings because more people can attend them. The committee agreed to continue with virtual meetings, eventually, implement a hybrid model when we know more about the New Courthouse space and virtual accessibility there. Members suggested that we have one Lunch and Learn in-person per year. This can enhance members' network and engagement opportunities.

Agency/Organization updates

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

-Jason reported that trials mostly occur in person. Bail and set date are done via ZOOM. As well, set dates without counsel may take longer. In May the Scarborough courthouse will move to the New Courthouse.

-Brad noted that most of their programs are utilizing a hybrid model. There are benefits to using virtual tools because it expands the geographical area that they can serve.

-Julienne stated that the Reintegration Officers are continuing to build community partnerships.

-Imtiaz noted that there are no new changes except that they expanded their catchment area to include 41 Division.

-Kyra(MNO) reported that they are continuing to educate the public. She had educational sessions with the Toronto Police and LAO.

-Nirmala noted that the Anti-Gun and Gangs Unit is undergoing staffing changes.

-Sarah reported that she provides free educational workshops for youth.

Updates from T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC

Dana reported on the Toronto Regional Anti-Racism Ad Hoc Group.

The S-HSHCC will lead a panel session on What Can Be Done - from an Anti-Racism perspective. This will be session 5 of 5 and take place in March 2023.

The next T-HSJCC meeting is taking place on January 9th.

Action Items:

Domenica will report on the Lunch and Learn sessions at the next meeting

Contact Domenica if you have suggestions for a meeting presentation.

Domenica will circulate the corrected November 2022 meeting minutes.

Presenter for next meeting: Tasha Castagnier-Seery, Manager Ambulatory & Community Mental Health and Substance Use Programs, at Scarborough Health Network

Next Meeting: Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting taking place on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 from 12 pm to -1:00 pm.