



**West Toronto Human Services and Justice
Coordinating Committee (WT-HSJCC)**

Meeting Minutes

September 30, 2014

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Metro West Courthouse, 2201 Finch Avenue West, Boardroom

Present: Elana Glass, Duty Counsel; Debbie Lynch (Co-chair), CTYS; Patricia Pagnani (Co-chair), Toronto Bail Program; Amber Kellen (Co-chair), John Howard Society of Toronto; Karen Poole, Reconnect; Leann Gallant, CMHA; Nicole Giles, CMHA; Alenka Dujmovic, Cota; Mary Ross-Hendriks, Judiciary; Sam Cole, MCSCS; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC

Regrets: Brad Tamcsu, (MCSCS); Umwali Sollange (Justice Collaborative- CAMH); Sarah Haslip, T.A. Patterson & Associates; Doris Galas, Humber River Regional Hospital; Laval Binns, Probation and Parole; Jim Lambe, Toronto Police Service, 12 Division; Paul French, Justice; Nancy Blades, Cota; Mary Dwyer, MCSCS; Bobby Kistow, MAG; Rochelle Direnfeld, MAG

Welcome and Introductions

- Sam Cole and Mary Ross-Hendriks were welcomed to the committee.
- Everyone introduced themselves.

Review of May 13, 2014 minutes

- The minutes were approved.

Presentation – Karen Poole, Reconnect Mental Health Services

- Located in the West end of the city in the Islington and Bloor area.
- Offers a variety of case management programs embedded with forensic services, including Dual Diagnosis, Mental Health and Justice, Seniors, ACTT and South Toronto LINK Team, Streets to Homes, Short-Term Crisis Bed, Central West Concurrent Disorder Program.
- Prevention programs are by direct referral; other programs require Access Point referral
- ACTT can be referred to internally or through Access Point. It has a psychiatrist and nurse as part of the team.
- Programs use a team approach
- South Toronto LINK Team – Health Link identified priority
 - New Program as of April 1, 2014, based on catchment area which is between the 427 to Young and Lake Ontario to Eglinton Avenue.

- Use LOCUS assessment to determine the clients needs – if high, client will be referred to the LINK Team. Referrals can be made directly by St. Joseph’s Hospital and Access Point.
- Currently no waitlist
- Access Point contact information – Tel. 416-499-5969 or contact Reconnect at 416-248-2050.
- St. Michael’s hospital has similar program in partnership with Cota – the Mid East Toronto Health Link (METHL).
- It was decided the next presentation would be by Cota on the Psychogeriatric Team. Alenka Dujmovic to follow-up with a presenter.

Munch and Learns Update

- The topic is *Personality Disorders* 101, Symptoms, Diagnosis and Treatment and will be held on October 8, 2014 at the Metro West courthouse. Presenter is Mike Pett, M.S.W. Over 30 people have RSVP’d so far. Invitations have been circulated to the WT-HSJCC members.
- Presentation will be in PowerPoint and it will be circulated to the WT-HSJCC members and uploaded to the HSJCC website.
- Food suggestion: Tim Horton’s wraps, coffee, cookies, and fruit
- Future Munch and Learn topics:
 - Mental Health and Addictions Panel - Guess speakers’ suggestions - Connex Ontario, CAMH, Rainbow Services, Jean Tweed, Detox, Harbour Light Addiction Program.
 - Trauma Informed Session

Agency/Organization Updates

- Amber Kellen reported on the Reintegration Centre. They are planning to open on November 1, 2014. Located at 215 Horner Avenue (across the street from the Toronto South Detention Centre). There is also a Research Team and an Evaluation Committee associated with the Centre which includes academics and partners.
- The Justice Collaborative is working on developing an intake/needs assessment form to be used at the Centre
- John Howard Society of Toronto (the lead-agency at the Centre) has hired a Peer Program Supervisor/Reintegration Centre Coordinator and will be hiring three peer workers as well. Peers will provide harm reduction education, support and community accompaniment..
- The Reintegration Centre is an innovative collaboration, modeled loosely after the United Way’s HUBs. The John Howard Society of Toronto’s staff will conduct needs assessments and warm referrals for men who are leaving the Toronto South Detention Centre (TSDC). The TSDC is a maximum security jail with a capacity for 1,620 inmates, almost all of whom will be on remand; charged but not convicted, awaiting trial or sentencing. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services has anticipated that each week, 180 to 200 men will be released from this location. Research shows that 33-

44% of these releasees will be homeless, and that many will have mental health and substance use issues.

- Support provided by the Centre's services and the ability of the Centre's staff to respond to men immediately upon their discharge will help to increase community safety, reduce the likelihood of recidivism and prevent deaths resulting from accidental drug overdoses. Further, the fact that JHS-T and most of the Centre's partners already provide support services to inmates (as per our traditional roles as resource counsellors and program facilitators) inside of correctional facilities prior to their release allows Reintegration Centre staff to build a sense of trust and to develop a working relationship with individuals before their discharge and service continuity which is extremely beneficial for reaching our goals.
- Additionally, safe space for family members and friends to awaiting the release of their loved ones from the detention facility will be available at the Centre.
- Amber Kellen will inform us when there is an Open House for the Centre.
- Mary Ross-Hendriks reported on the Justice Collaborative. They are working on a needs identification tool to be used at College Park and the Reintegration Centre. They are looking at the connection to available services instead of timely access to services. College Park has a sub-committee addressing who will be the lead for the needs identification tool. Mary Ross-Hendriks and Umwali Sollange will be meeting with the judiciary at College Park to discuss the needs identification tool and its implementation. At College Park the project will be female focused while the Reintegration Centre will be male focused.
- Mary Ross-Hendriks will provide an update at the January 13, 2015 meeting. She is not able to attend the November 2014 meeting.

Service Coordination Issues/Service Resolution

- Prisoners' belongings is still an ongoing issue.
- Referral time to service major barrier – waitlist for services
- Housing identified as a major gap – HSJCC is writing a letter to address the housing issue. The JC is working on a position paper about the housing situation, led by the CAMH Policy Committee.
- 950 people on the housing waitlist. Concerns were expressed that the West Toronto courthouse has the psychiatrist for only one day per week-- more days would be beneficial because inmates can't go to the Downtown Toronto 102 court.
- Access to a cell phone while being in the cell has improved.

Updates from the T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC

- Patricia Pagnani reported on the T-HSJCC. The Complex Care Sub-Committee has hired a consultant to address the needs and gaps for complex clients, such as clients with ABI, Asperger, and dementia who are involved with the

justice sector. The consultant, Jason Newberry will start in October and completion timeframe is January 2015

Actions

- Alenka Dujmovic will inform Domenica Dileo whether Cota can present on the Psychogeriatric Team.

Next Meeting

November 18, 2014 Metro West Courthouse, 2201 Finch Avenue West, Boardroom (between courtroom 202 and 203) from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Presentation: Cota Psychogeriatric Team.