

Health and Mental Health Working Group

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday April 28, 2020

2:00 pm

Zoom

Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Updates on Programing in different Organizations**
- 3. Covid-19 resource**
- 4. Social Isolation Forum**
- 5. Going Forward**
- 6. Next Meeting**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Each member was welcomed by LIP staff, members were thanked for attending the meeting during this difficult time.

2. Updates on Programing in Different Organizations

Each participant was given an opportunity to present the current situation in their perspective organizations. All of them expressed how they are currently going mostly virtual expect for those that are actually housing newcomers. They expressed a feeling out period but have now adapted to providing services in this current situations. Members offering medical services talked about different methods of in person services and physical distancing that is being applied. Members also stated that most services are now by appointment only. They expressed an importance to outreach and how that has changed and new methods are being developed.

3. Covid-19 resource

The group was introduced to the Access to Healthcare in Toronto if you do not have health coverage during Covid-19. The were shown the different features as well as the languages that the tool was being translated too.

The link is attached <https://www.wellesleyinstitute.com/important-new-information-for-uninsured-clients-in-toronto-during-covid-19/>

4. Social Isolation Forum

Members were given the information on the results of the social isolation Forum. The event was held in the end of February and was really well attended. The forum came up with several ideas on how to help the deal with the issues. The event held a presentation component as where three different organizations showcased their programs as well as had a participant to give their lived experience with the program. After the presentations and question and answer session, participants were divided into small groups in guided discussions. Through the discussion it was assessed that a network would help in the coordination of services to help augment the reach of programs. the group was informed of the creation of a network for organizations offering programs to curve social isolation. That this network would be housed in the social inclusion working group. The group still believed that social isolation is a mental health issue and would then be relevant to this group. It was assured that the involvement of members in the social inclusion working group was an option but that it did not mean social isolation issues would not be discussed in this working group.

5. Going Forward

The group discussed what the best course of action would be given the current situation. It was agreed that monthly meetings would be good but should there be a dire issue that an earlier meeting could be called.

6. Next Meeting

Doodle poll to be held for monthly meetings.