

## **Health and Mental Health Working Group**

### **Meeting Minutes**

January 11<sup>th</sup> 2021

10:00 am

Zoom

### **Agenda**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Land Acknowledgement**
- 3. Front Line Staff Support Network**
- 4. Mental Health Training for Language Teachers**
- 5. Translation of more Mental Health Resources into high need languages**
- 6. Re-opening protocols**
- 7. Emerging Issues**
- 8. Next Meeting**

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Each member was welcomed by LIP staff, members were thanked for attending the meeting during this difficult time. Members that introduced themselves and gave small updates on their organizations

#### **2. Land Acknowledgement**

TSLIP Staff read Land Acknowledgement

#### **3. Front Line staff support network**

The front lines staff support network is being held over zoom on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. TSLIP staff explained on the presentation of Toronto Public Health on information on the new Vaccines as well as on isolation procedures and resources. The registration has been steady. Agenda for the event is the presentation followed by a sharing circle. After the group will be asked on the next topic that the network should focus on.

#### **4. Mental Health Training for Language teachers**

Survey was sent out in December. Deadline was last week but organizations that work with TDSB programs asked to be extended for another week to get more teachers to participate. Preliminary results are showing that teachers are very concerned about their students digital literacy. There is also a high response rate on the mental health of their students with some respondents asking for mental health resources. At the next meeting will have final results to better develop a training module.

## **5. Translations of more Mental Health Resources into high need languages**

TSLIP staff updated the group on the involvement in the community clusters. There is also a development of the Newcomer Cluster which will begin in January. With the help of the YMCA the city of Toronto has taken our input and is now translating all documents into the 9 top need languages in the Toronto South. The TSLIP has also joined on to help promote Language advocacy day to better advocate for the need of more translated resources into more language to guarantee barrier free access to government services as well as to help fund agencies to be able to adequately translate materials. This work continues to be hard due to lack of resources, the pandemic has highlighted how scarce these resources are as even the City is having a hard time achieving this.

## **6. Re-Opening Protocols**

Staff thanked all agencies who have sent their protocols. The analysis is that most deal with contamination and PPE. There is no real specifics on Staff Mental Health. Staff asked members how to best address this. There were suggestions of sending out a mental health aid email with resources and stories that help deal with stress that are being done by the city of Toronto. There should be some more information about ongoing concerns. There was an idea that agencies should work on an all staff zoom meeting to be incorporated into organizations to help the flow of communication. There needs to be more communication on the resources of employment rights. There may be a possibility to collaborate with the Systemic Issues and Social change working group as they may be working on something similar. Also there is resource on an organizational self care check list that may help agencies better plan and support their staff.

## **7. Emerging issues update given by staff**

What issues are partners seeing?

- Variants and communications, is the why being communicate
- Access alliance newcomers cooking together ppl need to pick up the kits
- Lets get fit for newcomers (8 week programs) (culturelink)
- Pop up testing site at jane and Woolner, 761 jane street 3-7 Wednesday and every other Saturday from 11-3

## **8. Next Meeting**

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021