



Terms of Reference

Mental Health and Addictions Task Force

Mission/ Purpose:

This Task Force is responsible for working with various levels of government and community stakeholders to identify opportunities for enhanced community supports for mental health and substance use disorders in Grey County.

Objectives:

1. To focus on our community members living with mental health and addictions challenges, particularly our youth and insecurely housed or unhoused and transient neighbours
2. To bring together government, non government, health and community partners to understand and enable the delivery of interdisciplinary care focused on improving health equity through an innovative approaches to meet the needs of our most vulnerable community members in a timely, meaningful and reliable way.
3. To determine appropriate advocacy to various levels of government for increased access to services and reduction of barriers to these services
4. To make recommendations for local and/or immediate action focused programs that meet people where they are at to provide person-centred health and wrap-around care to improve health outcomes and health equity of individuals who experience barriers in access to health and social services in Grey County.

Governance roles and responsibilities:

Grey County does not have a direct role in the provision of mental health or substance use treatment. However, the lack of appropriate treatment and support services has a direct impact on services that the County is responsible for, including paramedic services, social services and housing and homelessness. The Task Force will work with other levels of government to seek out greater access to mental health and substance use disorder services, funding options and solutions to assist in the development of a local strategy aimed at prioritizing short and long-term solutions for Grey County

residents. The Task Force will also work with public stakeholders to examine current and future opportunities and gaps to accessing these services.

Membership

Membership on the Task Force will remain the same for the duration of the council term, or until the end of its mandate, whichever comes first.

Members include:

- 7 County Councillors plus the Warden (amended per Resolution CW31-22)

Council Members of the Mental Health and addictions Task Force have been appointed by Council per Resolution CW_____. Any vacancies that may arise will be filled by Council appointment.

- 5 Public Stakeholders

Public stakeholders will include:

- Phil Dodd, Keystone Child, Youth and Family Services
- Clark MacFarlane, Canadian Mental Health Association
- Naomi Vodden, Grey Bruce Health Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Member of the Peer Advisory Network, Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy to be confirmed at a later date following discussion at the Taskforce table
- Member of the Grey Bruce Public Health Unit, ~~to be confirmed~~

Each Member will:

1. Exercise the care, diligence, and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.
2. Become informed in the area of mental health and addiction support services.
3. Take necessary measures to ensure that the corporation complies with legislation.
4. Be committed to achieving and maintaining the vision, mission, and values of Grey County.

Chair and Vice Chair

The Task Force will elect a Chair and Vice Chair at the first meeting, and they will retain these positions for the council term, or until the task force has met its mandate, whichever comes first.

Advice to Council

The Task Force shall make recommendations to Council, for which Council retains the decision-making role.

Lead Staff

Director of Social Services with support from the Director of Community Services and Director of Paramedic Services as required.

Subject Matter Experts

- Alison Govier, Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy
- Darren Clock, Paramedic Services

Meetings

The Task Force will meet at the call of the Chair.

Quorum

A quorum is more than 50% of the membership of the Task force.

Statutory Authority

The Task Force is guided by Grey County's Procedural By-law, Council's Code of Conduct, Provincial Acts and regulations, and other Grey County Policies as applicable.

Reporting Relationship

The Task Force reports to Grey County Committee of the Whole