

Mandate – what are we here to do?

- To improve/enhance our ability to share and generate information and resources
- To develop an inter-organizational referral protocol that will enable us to better serve our clients
- To develop relationships that will enable us to network with each other and support each other as professionals
- To create linkages to the broader community for the purpose of raising the profile of substance abuse issues and leveraging broad support for the initiatives emerging from this network
- To serve in an advisory capacity on issues related to substance abuse to the St. Lucia Substance Abuse Council and senior decision/policy-makers within governmental and non-governmental organizations
- To work together to develop and implement a more holistic approach to solving the various and complex social problems related to substance abuse, including, but not limited to: the neglect of children, domestic violence, crime, access to effective and appropriate treatment services, effective prevention programs, the overall health and well-being of our children and adolescents, etc.

Membership (as of March 2006) –

- Ministry of Health, Human Services, Family Affairs and Gender Relations - St. Lucia Substance Abuse Secretariat, Division of Human Services and Family Affairs, Turning Point Treatment Centre, Child and Adolescent Health Programme, Bureau of Health Education
- Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports – School Counsellors
- Ministry of Justice – Family Court
- Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security – Probation and Parole, Bordelais Correctional Facility, Royal St. Lucia Police Force, Boys Training Centre, Upton Gardens Girls' Centre

Potential Members –

- Magistracy
- Mental Health/Psychiatry
- Faith Based Groups
- Principals Association
- Media
- Chamber of Commerce
- Alcohol Industry
- Ministry of Community Development
- Youth Organizations (example: St. Lucia Jr. Pride)
- National Crime Commission
- Twelve Step Programs

Governance –

- Steering Committee

Members' Responsibilities –

- to attend meetings (up to six per year)
- to obtain endorsement of the network's Terms of Reference from the highest possible level of authority at their respective home organizations and to keep their respective home organizations apprised, on an on-going basis, of the network's priorities, actions, and accomplishments
- to share current information and research from their respective home organizations with the network
- To identify resources and opportunities from members' respective home organizations/partners that would benefit the work of the network
- To assume roles and responsibilities, as required, in the fulfillment of the committee's mandate.

Frequency of meetings –

- Between six and twelve meetings per year

Planned Meetings –

- Steering Committee – Thursday, March 23 at 10:00am
- T.E.A.M Helen – Thursday, April 04 at 10:30am

Priority Issue Identified By T.E.A.M Helen on March 16, 2006 –

Youth

- Education (misperceptions around cannabis and alcohol)
- Prevention (Healthy alternatives)
- Treatment/Intervention (supply reduction and harm reduction)
- Aftercare (housing, employment, training, etc.)

Other Major Issues Identified By T.E.A.M Helen on March 16, 2006 –

1. Treatment Issues
 - Access to treatment (space, cost and availability)
 - Appropriate services (inpatient and outpatient, youth and women)
 - Aftercare (housing, etc.)
2. Dissemination of information and support to enable communities to develop a range of education, prevention, and intervention initiatives across all levels (primary, secondary and tertiary)
3. Parent and Family Issues
 - Education and support regarding substance abuse, and communication skills, etc.
 - Early intervention
 - At risk families
4. National Drug Strategy for St. Lucia

5. Law Reform
 - Alcohol and other drugs
 - Penalties

Steering Committee Terms of Reference -

Mandate –

- To call meetings of the network
- To set the agenda of network meetings
- To record and disseminate proceedings of network meetings
- To monitor action plans emanating from network meetings, thereby ensuring accountability and follow-through on decisions taken
- To maintain contact with network members/advisors between meetings, as needed.

Membership –

- Two Co-Chairs
 - Ms. Elizabeth Serieux-Wilson (St. Lucia Substance Abuse Secretariat)
 - Dr. Jackie Bird (Child and Adolescent Health Program Coordinator)
- Secretary
 - Ms. Johanna Joseph (Turning Point Treatment Centre)
- Co-Secretary
 - Ms. Marcia Anne Polius (Bordelais Correctional Facility)
- Member at Large
 - Sgt. Burton Deterville (Sergeant of Police Drug Squad)
- Other members to a maximum of six (6) in total
- Representation by the St. Lucia Substance Abuse Secretariat on the Steering Committee is mandatory.

Members' Responsibilities –

- To attend monthly meetings
- To maintain contact with other Steering Committee members/advisors between meetings, as needed.
- To assume roles and responsibilities, as required, in the fulfillment of the committee's mandate.
- To commit to serve on the Steering Committee for a minimum of two years.

Facilitation Team Terms of Reference

Mandate –

- To provide training and on-going support in collaboration and collaborative partnerships to members of the network, and advisory group as required.
- To provide training and on-going support in collaboration and collaborative partnerships to other organizations and sectors, as requested.

Membership (as of March 2006) –

- Ms. Elizabeth Serieux-Wilson
- Ms. Joanna Joseph
- Mr. Merus Joseph
- Dr. Jackie Bird
- Ms. Lucy Myers
- Ms. Solace Myers
- Cpl. Sylvester Joseph

Member Responsibilities –

- To pursue and practice skills in the facilitation of collaborative partnerships
- To apply these skills, as needed, in order to support collaboration within the network and in other situations, as requested.