

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLANNING: The Municipalities of Bruce and Grey

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEETING: Community Safety & Well-Being Planning, Advisory Committee

DATE: May 20, 2025

TIME: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

LOCATION: Virtual, Grey County MS Teams

CO-CHAIRS: Members of the Steering Committee

Alexis Cook (Coordinator)

Anne Marie Shaw (Community Services, Grey County)

Tina Metcalfe (Human Services, Bruce County)

Jane Hartley (Victim Services Bruce Grey Perth)

Keegan Wilson (Inspector, South Bruce OPP)

Jason Weppler (Grey Bruce Health Unit)

RECORDER: Patti McNabb (Grey County)

ATTENDEES: Alexis Cook, Jane Hartley, Jason Weppler, Keegan Wilcox, Beth Aubrey, Beth Blackwell, Cait MacKinnon, Chad Zimmerman, Craig Ambrose, Dave Zago, Debra Anderson, Francesca Dobbyn, Kevin Cornell, Kevin Zettel, Jason Cranny, Jodi Ward, Jocelyn Marshall, Josh Gibson, Kaela Sales, Kelsey Mighton, Marla Barfoot, Michelle Bloomfield, Pam Coulter, Patti McNabb, Rob Atkinson, Robert Martin, Sarah Cowley, Susan Sakal, Tara Saab, Vivian Kennedy.

ITEM
1. Welcome and Introductions, Land Acknowledgement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jason Weppler (Grey Bruce Public Health & Steering Committee Member)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jason welcomed everyone to the meeting and Jane Hartley shared land acknowledgements.
2. How Victim Services Bruce Grey can support your Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane Hartley, Executive Director Victim Services Bruce Grey (and Steering Committee Member)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane provided an overview of services provided by Victim Services Bruce Grey (VS). The three key pillars include Assistance to Victims, Collaborative Partnerships, and Education and Awareness to provide a safer community for all. A victim is someone who has suffered harm because of a crime, accident, or tragic event. The harm can be physical, emotional, psychological or financial. A survivor refers to someone who has lived through such an event and continues to navigate its aftermath. Programs and services include Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario, Victim Quick Response Program+, and Project Lifesaver. Volunteers assist to reduce the impact of trauma, provide access to essential services within the community, promote community wellness, and assist in restoring a sense of control to a victim. Victim Quick Response Program is offered as a last resort; it offers very limited financial assistance. Volunteers assist with the application process for submission to MCCSS for review

and adjudication, after which VS volunteers follow up with victims. Response times are generally within a few days.

- Jane shared supports and services included within the VQRP+ program (Serious Violent Crimes)
- Project Lifesaver is a proactive life protection program for individuals living with cognitive disorders who may wander. Costs for this program are \$550 for initial set up and equipment, and \$150 yearly renewal fee and battery changes with sliding scale available only where donations allow.
- Jane advised that there are offices located throughout Grey and Bruce Counties. Main office is located in Kincardine with satellite offices at South Bruce OPP Detachment in Walkerton, Saugeen Shores Police Services in Port Elgin, Owen Sound Police Services, and West Grey Police Services in Durham (once built).
- Jane can be reached at jhartley@victim-services.com or 519-396-8732 (office) or 226-234-5399 (cell)

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

- There were no questions.

3. Coordinator Updates

- Alexis Cook (Coordinator)

- Alexis advised that Placement student from Georgian College BScN program completed 2 evidence briefs March 30th
- Fall 2025 proposal submitted to BScN for and environmental scan of all action tables, work, mandates, etc., as it relates to the five Action Tables.
- OMSSA Conference Exchange attended by Alexis and Jane.
- STAR Training continues.
- STAR Resource Development work continues – next meeting is June 2025
- Participation in Children's Health Day on June 7, 2025 through the Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village at the Sulphur Spring Conservation Area in Hanover.
- Next Steps include distribution of CSWBP Advisory Committee Survey (and analysis), complete STAR trainings and resource development, follow up with municipalities from the OMSSA, start working group for 2026 CSWBP Index of Well-Being Survey, continue AMO advocacy for funding from SOLGEN.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

- There were no questions or comments

4. Situation Table for Acutely Elevated Risk (STAR) Update

- Alexis Cook

- In 2024 there were 23 Situations; 17 met AER requirements and all 17 are closed .
- Currently in 2025 there are 15 Situations; 93% met AER (14/15), 7/14 closed, and 6/7 had their AER lowered
- Alexis shared sector identification referral stats for Jan 1, 2024 – May 18, 2025
- Study Flags for the period Jan 1, 2025 – May 18, 2025 reflects domestic violence as the number 1 flag for situations.
- Higher level risk priorities (same time period) has mental health and cognitive function as the number 1 factor
- Protective Factor Grouping (same time period) has family supports as number 1 protective factor

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

- There we no questions or comments

5. Action Table Updates

Mental Health (Scott McKay - Mental Health Networking Table)

- System- level alignment and planning update include development of workplans
- Next steps include revision of Grey Bruce Mental Health and Addictions Terms of Reference to allow for improved input from community partners.

Crime Prevention (Marla Barfoot Crime Prevention Action Table)

- Current Chair Chief Robert Martin of the West Grey Police is retiring, and incoming Chair is Marla Barfoot
- There is a Cannabis & Driving Resource + Education Campaign.
- Drug Trafficking Town Halls remain in progress with 4 of 5 complete.
- Short-Term Rental Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative is complete but recommended that all municipalities adopt the document into their STR licensing processes.
- Human Trafficking Town Halls were very successful – additional sessions being coordinated for fall.
- Hate Crime Working Group is currently in development – please reach out to Alexis if your agency is interested in participating.
- Next steps include hosting final Drug Trafficking Town Hall, development of podcast with synthesized information from drug trafficking town halls, create online targeted ads with OSAID for Cannabis + Driving Campaign, plan online speaker panel for cannabis & driving for the fall / winter, attend Children's Safety Day with road safety education for youth, complete consultations for the Hate Crime Working Group and onboard partners

Poverty and Income (Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force)

- 2024 Tax season support for people with low-income has been completed from March-May (coordinators meeting to be held)
- Updated 211 on CVITP
- Used social media to recruit 23 CVITP volunteers in 24/25 and partnered with Hanover Public Library for a new location
- Current work occurring on a new PFT website
- Community voices peer-support facilitator has been hired and recruitment of members in progress
- Working with the United Way to calculate 2025 living wage

Housing & Homelessness (Josh Gibson - Homelessness Planning Table)

- Priority efforts continue on education.
- The motel program has contributed greatly
- Bruce County is working on data points for presentation to council – Grey will do the same
- Staff efforts to support encampments for appropriate referrals
- Grey and Bruce will both be working on data pertaining to Winter 2024 Housing efforts
- Next steps include Fall education program, and continuation to build capacity and partnerships

Addictions/Substance Use (Kelsey Mighton, Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy)

- Successful funding for a dedicated coordinator – announcements to follow
- Efforts prioritized to reduce stigma related to substance use and its impact through evidence-informed training, education and communication.
- Next steps include Challenging Structural Substance Use Stigma Workshop Pilot: May 27, 2025; Seeking out alternate funding opportunities the PAC, and transition of the role of the coordinator to the successful candidate.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

- What is the target audience of the stigma campaign – Kelsey advised CDAS reviewed information

from the River District and advised that an update via media release on quarterly opioid overdose trends to educate the public is pending. Meeting also planned with City of Owen Sound to ensure appropriate stats and information is circulated to law enforcement. Work continues on language associated with the stigma for education campaigns.

- Chief Ambrose provided an update on content associated with the River District meeting recently held in Owen Sound from a policing aspect; balancing complaints against policing policies and enforcement.

6. General

- Alexis Cook, Coordinator

Communications

- New URL: <https://greybrucecswbp.ca> – the previous URL will redirect you to the new location.
- Social media out on May 15th Cannabis & Driving: [New Road Safety Campaign Targets Cannabis-Impaired Driving / Bruce County](#)
- May 26th media release + social media will be released for Children's Health Day
- Please email Alexis if you do not have contact on your email distribution list for media releases + social media content.

Advisory Committee Survey

- An email with the link to the survey will be sent out next week and open until June 17th
- The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete
- This is a requirement to meet the Provincial direction to review and revise our plan as required by July 2025
- Please take the time to complete the survey in order to ensure we meet compliance.

Index of Well-Being Survey

- Looking for partners to help support with the development of the CSWBP Index of Well-Being Survey for a January 2026 launch to assist with future planning.
- Please email Alexis if you would like to join the working sub-group.

Municipal Rep CoP

- Members who completed the survey were thanked.
- Invitation to the meeting will be coming out in June.
- Please reach out to Alexis or Jon Farmer if you have continued interest.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

- There were no questions or comments.

7. Provincial & Local Updates

- Steering Committee Members

- Alexis shared statistics for Bruce County on the number of households on Ontario Works and the increases in the number of licensed child care. [Bruce County Human Services Department Q1 2025 Quarterly Update](#)
- [Bruce Power donates \\$1 million to The Well Community Collective in support of local youth - Bruce Power](#)

QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

- There were no questions or comments.

8. New Business

- There was no new business.

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 PM

Should you have any questions throughout the course of this project, please don't hesitate to contact any of the Steering Committee members:

- Anne Marie Shaw annemarie.shaw@grey.ca
- Tina Metcalfe tmetcalfe@brucecounty.on.ca
- Jane Hartley Jhartley@victim-services.com
- Keegan Wilcox Keegan.Wilcox@opp.ca
- Jason Weppler J.Weppler@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca

Next Meeting: August 12, 2025 at 1:00PM

VIRTUAL – Grey County Microsoft Teams (details to follow)