

SERVICES AND SUPPORT AFTER INCARCERATION

Where to go when you're looking for help

Last updated: February 2024

If you are seeking information about court-mandated programs for adults charged with domestic violence, please refer to the Partner Assault Response Programs resource sheet.

Walk-In Clinics

Government of Ontario

www.ontario.ca/locations/health/index.php?lang=en

Services: Website to help people find health care services across the province. To search, specify the health care service you are interested in (e.g., walk-in clinic, hospital, addiction or mental health program, sexual health clinic) and the area where you are seeking that service.

Finding a Family Doctor or Nurse Practitioner

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario

www.cpso.on.ca

Services: “Find a Doctor” search on the website; if you don’t have the name of a specific doctor, choose the “Advanced Search” option, leave the physician name blank and enter the postal code and city where you are looking for a doctor, then contact the doctors listed to see if they are accepting new patients.

Health Care Connect, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

1 800 445-1822, press 5

<https://hcc3.hcc.moh.gov.on.ca/HCCWeb/faces/layoutHCCSplash.jsp>

Services: Help finding a family doctor or nurse practitioner in your area who is accepting new patients: Sign up for Health Care Connect through the website; you will get an information package directing you to a care connector who will refer you to a family doctor or nurse practitioner as soon as one becomes available.

If any of this information is incorrect or outdated, or if there are additional organizations or programs that would be helpful to include, please e-mail the information to us at access.resources@camh.ca.

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Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario

<https://npao.org/nplcs>

Tel.: 437-980-4566

Services: Website that explains what services nurse practitioners offer and lists nurse practitioner-led clinics by region (you can then contact the one closest to you to find out if you can register)

Support Services

Canadian Mental Health Association – Mental Health and Justice Services

700 Lawrence Avenue West, Toronto, ON

Tel.: 416 789-7957

Services: Programs to support people in the mental health and criminal justice systems (specific programs below)

Forensic Supportive Housing

<https://cmhato.org/programs/forensic-supportive-housing-fshp>

Services: Supportive housing, intensive case management services and risk management services focused on recovery, independence and skill building. This community-based program is one of the final stages in the continuum of care within Forensic Services at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Eligibility: People with serious mental illness who are under the Ontario Review Board as a result of being found not criminally responsible

Referral: Directly from CMHA Toronto Transitional Rehabilitation Housing Programs (TRHP 1 and TRP 2). These programs are a partnership with CAMH's Forensic Outpatient Services.

Mental Health and Justice Case Management Services

<https://cmhato.org/programs/mental-health-and-justice-case-management>

Services: 395 supportive housing units in Toronto with high-level flexible support

Eligibility: People ages 16+ who are involved in the criminal justice system, homeless or at risk of being homeless, have independent living skills and can be safely supported in the community

Referral: Through Access Point (theaccesspoint.ca) or by calling 1 888 640-1934. Clients are matched with a case manager to create a plan for getting housing.

Mental Health and Justice Prevention Service

<https://cmhato.org/programs/mental-health-and-justice-prevention-program>

Services: Short-term case management and community support that links people to mental health services to reduce their risk of criminal arrest

Eligibility: People ages 16+ who have mental health issues and are at risk of incurring criminal charges, are facing criminal charges or have recently had charges before the court

Referral: Directly by the person, family, police, probation services, court personnel and other service providers; referral form on website

Mental Health Court Support Services

Toronto Regional Bail Centre, 2201 Finch Avenue West, 1st floor, North York, ON

Ontario Court of Justice, 10 Armoury Street, 8th floor

<https://cmhato.org/programs/mental-health-court-support>

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Services: Diversion from court system and connection to mental health services in the community; consultation for people who do not qualify for diversion and help linking them to services to facilitate bail or assist with sentencing; intensive case management; information and consultation for families and others
Eligibility: People ages 18+ who have a serious mental illness and have charges pending at the Toronto Regional Bail Centre or the Ontario Court of Justice in Toronto
Referral: Call 437 552-9038 or email info@10armourymentalhealth.org

Cota Health – Mental Health and Justice Services

550 Queen Street East, Suite 200, Toronto, ON

416 785-9230

<https://cotainspires.ca/mental-health-services>

Services: Programs for adults with mental health challenges who are involved with the criminal justice system or are at risk of involvement (see program details below)

Dual Diagnosis and Justice Case Management

Services: Case management to help clients maintain optimal health and wellness and meet their individual goals

Eligibility: People ages 16+ with mild to moderate developmental disability and diagnosed mental illness living in Toronto; must be currently involved in the criminal justice system or at risk of involvement

Referral: Referral form must be requested from Cota and completed by any caregiver, professional and the prospective client

Mental Health and Justice Case Management

Services: Individualized case management, including comprehensive assessment, safety planning, recovery/goal planning, housing support, assistance with legal proceedings and referral to other services

Eligibility: People ages 16+ with a serious mental illness and active involvement in the criminal justice system; must be out of custody and assessed by Cota for ability to be supported in the community

Referral: By calling Cota at 1 888-640-1934 or through www.theaccesspoint.ca

Mental Health and Justice Prevention Program

Tel.: 416 785-9230 ext. 8793

Services: Case management to help clients minimize their risk of involvement in the criminal justice system

Eligibility: People ages 16+ in North York with a serious mental illness; must also meet one of the following criteria: referred by police officer or probation officer who identified the person as moderate to high risk of being charged with an offence, currently facing charges or released from jail within past year, living with five or more risk factors (listed on the website)

Referral: By contacting Cota by phone

Mental Health Court Support

1000 Finch Avenue West, North York, ON

Services: Diversion from the criminal justice system to the mental health system, needs assessments, development of recovery-oriented court diversion plans, referral to mental health services and education

Eligibility: People ages 16+ with a serious mental illness who are involved with the criminal justice system but who would be better served in the mental health system

Referral: Anyone involved in the proceedings can make a referral directly at Cota's Mental Health Court Support office at the court

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Release Planning Case Management Program

Services: Short-term case management to support the client in transitioning back into the community

Eligibility: Men ages 18+ with a serious mental illness who are incarcerated at the Toronto South Detention Centre and are about to be released

Referral: Through staff at the Toronto South Detention Centre

Elizabeth Fry Toronto

215 Wellesley Street East, Toronto, ON

www.efrytoronto.org

Tel.: 416 924-3708, 1 855 924-3708

info@efrytoronto.org

Services: Transitional residence and community support, including transitional housing; counselling services (e.g., parenting, Partner Assault Response program, psychiatric services and reintegration counselling); employment services; community supports (e.g., Court Support Program, Social–Recreation Program and Market Place); sex work transition planning

Eligibility: Women who are or have been in conflict with the law, or are at risk of involvement with the criminal justice system; some programs have additional eligibility criteria

Fees: Free, except Partner Assault Response program

Jean Tweed Centre – Justice, Addiction and Mental Health Program

215 Evans Avenue, Toronto, ON

<https://jeantweed.com/justice-programs>

Tel.: 416 255-7359

info@jeantweed.com

Services: Help with release plans while in custody, connections to local resources for housing and social supports, referrals to substance use and mental health supports

Eligibility: Women in Toronto’s west end with both substance use problems and a serious mental illness who are involved with the criminal justice system

Referral: Self-referrals accepted by calling the number above

John Howard Society of Toronto

1669 Eglinton Avenue West, 416 925-4386 (main office)

160 Horner Avenue (Reintegration Services trailer)

3313 Lakeshore Boulevard West, 416 792-7808

779 Danforth Avenue, 416-925-4387

1911 Kennedy Road, 647 849-1541

1 866 265-4434

johnhoward.on.ca/toronto/services

Services:

- Anger management group counselling helps men manage and communicate anger, but does not cover domestic violence
- Reintegration Service trailer in South Detention Centre parking lot (address above) supports people being released from jail or returning to pick up their property: services include counselling, clothing, food, transit passes, a place to check emails and charge cell phones, accompaniment in the community
- Lakeshore site provides assessments, referrals, snacks, overdose prevention information, harm reduction/education, including naloxone

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- Homes for Good helps clients find housing and provides intensive follow-up support; pre-employment programs
- STEAM anger management program helps clients keep employment and communicate positively
- Record Suspension (Pardons) Service helps clients apply for a record suspension
- Relapse Prevention Program offers weekly group and individual counselling for addiction

Eligibility: Varies by program: anger management is for mandated and voluntary clients, but men with domestic-related charges must first complete a domestic violence program; STEAM is for male Ontario Works recipients looking for work who have poor conflict resolution or relationship skills

Referral: Varies by program; call the number above or check website for other contacts

Fees: Some fees apply. Record Suspension support is \$365 plus applicable fees

Mental Health and Justice Supportive Housing Program – The Access Point

Tel.: 416 640-1934

theaccesspoint.ca

Services: A Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care program made up of LOFT, CMHA, Cota and Houselink that connects people with safe housing and provides mental health, employment and crisis support

Eligibility: People ages 16–64 who have a serious mental illness, are homeless or at risk of being homeless and are currently involved in the criminal justice system

Referral: Complete the application form on the website; can be referred by mental health court support programs and court-based case management programs

ID Clinics

Neighbourhood Link Support Services – Partners for Access and Identification Project

Tel.: 416-925-4363

info@tngcs.org

www.neighbourhoodlink.org/index.php?page_id=239

Services: 40 clinics in the GTA that help people access health care and sources of income such as pensions and other services; support in getting birth registration, Canadian birth certificates, Verification of Status replacement (formerly Record of Landing) and Ontario health card (if the person does not have an address and ID)

Eligibility: People who do not have a permanent address

Street Health

338 Dundas Street East, Toronto, ON

Tel.: 416 921-8668 ext. 227

<https://streethealth.ca/services/identification-id>

Services: Identification clinics for clients looking to replace or obtain legal identifications

Eligibility: Anyone who needs help replacing or obtaining legal ID

Note: Only 30 people can be seen at each clinic, so arrive early to sign up; refer to the website for clinic hours and locations (schedule changes often)