

INTERNATIONAL CORRECTIONS AND PRISONS ASSOCIATION Update on Activity Report: Healthcare Network Group

*Updates Provided 17 April 2019
by Chair John May, MD*

The Healthcare Network Group consists of health practitioners, researchers, advocates and stakeholders committed to improving conditions of physical and mental health care and treatment to the justice involved population. The group has had a small, but consistent, presence at ICPA conferences and activities. There is a hope to generate more interest and activity by the Healthcare Network Group by encouraging presentation of papers at ICPA conference, participation in Leadership Training programs and contribution to articles, website and newsletters.

The following is a brief update on key activities of the Network.

1. Network Meeting at the ICPA Annual Conference in October, 2018 in Montreal

The meeting of the Healthcare Network in Montreal, October 2018, was attended by 21 persons. The Network has nearly 40 persons on email communications. Discussion of increasing interest, membership and participation by health-related interests was discussed. Members agreed that they would like to see more health-related tracks in the conference program and a higher profile for treatment innovations. The mission and objectives of the Network were discussed and advanced. Members were encouraged to contribute articles and submit papers to Program Committee, including consideration of a special issue of Advancing Corrections on health issues.

2. World Health Organization Health in Prisons Programme

Represented at the 6th Prison Health Conference of the WHO Health in Prisons Program, Helsinki, Finland, 26-27, 2019, as attended (non-funded) by Dr. John May and Mark Andrews. Promotion of ICPA inclusion in their growing network and the Worldwide Prison Health Research and Engagement Network (WEPHREN).

3. Regional Health Training Program

A regional workshop on prison health will occur in Timisoara, Romania on 30 April – 1 May 2019. Travel and host costs acquired through the efforts of Dorin Muresan and Gary Hill of Training Network, training moderated by Dr. John May. Program will review international standards of health in prisons with examples of accreditation standards of the American Correctional Association, Council of Europe European Prison Rules, International Committee of the Red Cross and United Nations. Expected attendees from Romania, Turkey, Serbia, Czech Republic, and possibly Ghana and Lesotho.

4. Request to ICPA for Website Listing

The Healthcare Network Group kindly requests that ICPA post the Healthcare Group under the Network tab on the website.