

Edmonton Seniors 55+ Social Prescribing Project Update for Healthcare Providers

The Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council (ESCC), in partnership with SAGE Seniors Association, Jewish Family Services Edmonton, The Multicultural Health Brokers, Drive Happiness and Edmonton Meals on Wheels launched the Edmonton Social Prescribing for Seniors 55+ Pilot Project in February 2023.

Since its launch the Project
has received over:

480
Referrals
from over 270
Healthcare Providers

What is Social Prescribing?

- An integration of healthcare and community-based services
- A structured, supported referral pathway
- An approach that views individuals holistically
- Supporting people to overcome challenges and barriers to access community-based services
- A culture change that provides a new way to think about and deliver health and social care
- Co-creating solutions with clients, staff, healthcare providers and community
- A Link Worker/ Case Manager who assists with connections to programs, services and provides progress updates to the healthcare providers.

Highest Needs for Services:

- Navigation of Community Supports and Services
- Food Security
- Housekeeping
- Assisted Transportation
- Housing
- Recreation and Leisure

Criteria for Seniors:

- Older Adults 55+
- Living in Edmonton and Surrounding Areas
- Client willingness and ability to work toward setting and achieving goals independently

5 Key Outcomes of Social Prescribing for Older Adults:

Improved
physical
and
mental
health

Increased
confidence
to live at
home

Reduced
isolation
and
loneliness

Reduced
length and
frequency of
hospital stays

Increased
community
connections and
natural support
networks



We want to hear from you!

Share with us your experiences and feedback regarding the project by [clicking here](#).

Updated Referral Form:

The Edmonton Seniors 55+ Social Prescribing Project has updated its referral form for healthcare Providers. The new forms and additional information for Healthcare Providers can be found at: <https://seniorscouncil.net/social-prescribing/>

Please be advised of the following program changes as of Sept 1, 2023:

Hoarding:

Hoarding Disorder is a serious health and safety issue that greatly impacts the health and wellbeing of those affected – which is an estimated 57,000 people in the Edmonton region alone. Hoarding has unique impacts on and can be more life-threatening for older adults, particularly if they have reduced mobility or other health-related issues. However, hoarding disorder requires long term and specialized supports address these needs. At the present time the project does not have the resources to successfully support clients with hoarding disorders, however, can support those needing assistance with clutter.

As of August 1st, 2021, services through the Full House program at SAGE are limited to:

- The Drop in Support Group and the registered Therapeutic Support Group at Sage;
- Support for older adults who contact Sage directly asking for assistance to work on their personal issues of hoarding;
- Support for Hoarding Coalition community partners to respond to issues of hoarding they encounter with older adults;
- Guidance to other community agencies while they support older adults who have hoarding behaviors/disorder.

If circumstances change surrounding supports in community for hoarding disorders, we will advise healthcare providers.



Elder Abuse

Supports for Elder Abuse are available through The Seniors Protection Partnership.

To report elder abuse, contact the EPS Complaint line at 780-423-4567.

The Seniors Protection Partnership is a collaboration of the Edmonton Police Service, the City of Edmonton, Catholic Social Services, Covenant Health, and Sage (Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton). Their mission is to prevent and respond to elder abuse by working in partnership with the community, thereby enhancing the well being of older adults.

To report or for more information on elder abuse, contact the Seniors Protection Partnership at 780-477-2929.

Seniors' Abuse Hotline

780-454-8888

The 24-hours Seniors' Abuse Helpline is available seven days a week.

The Seniors Abuse Helpline provides confidential, non-judgmental, and short-term crisis intervention, emotional support, and resources to those who are experiencing or concerned about someone else experiencing seniors' abuse.

For Further Information on Social Prescribing, visit our website at: <https://seniorscouncil.net/social-prescribing/>