



A PRESCRIPTION FOR CHANGE

Edmonton Seniors 55+ Social Prescribing Program

FAQ for Edmonton HealthCare Providers

What is Social Prescribing?

Social prescribing is a holistic approach to healthcare that bridges the gap between medical and social care services. Through social prescribing, healthcare professionals can refer patients to community-based programs to improve their health and enhance their quality of life.

Project Background

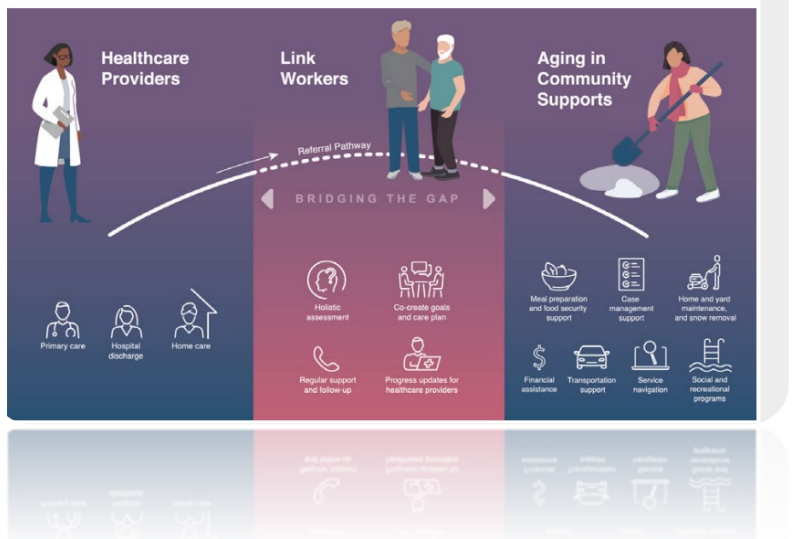
The Edmonton Seniors 55+ Social Prescribing Project is a collaborative project funded by the Government of Alberta and Healthy Aging Alberta.

The project purposefully links the healthcare system with community-based senior serving organizations through an established referral pathway. The project provides essential navigation services, case management, and non-medical community support to seniors residing in the community to maintain their health and support their wellbeing.

Program Eligibility Criteria

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

How it Works



For further information on Social Prescribing, please visit: <https://seniorscouncil.net/social-prescribing/>



Who can make a Social Prescribing referral?

Any regulated healthcare professional can make a social prescription. This includes doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, etc. If a healthcare professional recognizes that a patient has non-medical, health-related social needs, they can submit a Social Prescribing referral form.

How can I make a referral?

Healthcare Providers can complete the Edmonton Social Prescribing 55 + Referral Form and submit it to the Project Central Intake (SAGE) at SRX@mysage.ca or by Fax to (780) 426- 5175, attention: Social Prescribing.

*The Healthcare Provider will receive confirmation once a referral is received.

*Please ensure consent to disclose health information is given prior to submission.

What happens after a referral is made?

Central Intake will connect patients to “link workers” who work with clients to identify their social needs. If there is a determined need for ongoing, long-term, or complex need for support, clients will be connected with a Social Prescribing Case Manager who will work with the client to address these complex needs.

What is a Link Worker?

Link Workers are non-clinical professionals employed by community-based, seniors-serving organizations. They help clients to develop and achieve a personalized set of goals by accessing community resources. Link Workers do not replace the role of healthcare providers. Rather, they complement a client’s medical care by providing additional support.

Who would benefit from Social Prescribing?

Patients/ Clients may benefit from Social Prescribing if they:

- are a caregiver to someone else
- may be lonely or socially isolated
- make medical appointments to discuss non-medical issues
- are low-income and have limited access to food security, transportation and in-home supports.
- have trouble getting nutritious food because of limited mobility
- are recently bereaved
- are new to the community

Social Prescribing might not be a good fit, if the client:

- is unable/ unwilling to co-create goals and work toward their goals
- is facing immediate crisis needs
- resides outside of the City of Edmonton



We want to hear from you!

Share with us your experiences and feedback regarding the project by clicking the link below!

<https://forms.office.com/r/LZci4BShTC>

5 KEY OUTCOMES

OF SOCIAL PRESCRIBING FOR OLDER ADULTS

1. Improved physical and mental health
2. Increased confidence to live at home
3. Reduced isolation and loneliness
4. Reduced length and frequency of hospital stays
5. Increased community connections and natural support networks