SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Individual with complex needs

Primary care clinician makes a social prescription - a referral - after fulsome discussions

Navigator links individual to appropriate resources, and supports their journey to wellbeing

Individual connected to social and community supports, with invitation to engage, contribute, and give back
1990 - 2010's
Regional social prescribing schemes developed and begin to spread.

2016
British Red Cross study shows that over 9 million people across all adult ages were either always or often lonely.

NHS General Practice Forward Review named social prescribing as one of ten high impact actions.

2017
British MPs launch the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness.

2018
National Strategy Against Loneliness released. UK Health Secretary commits £4.5 million to enable all GPs access to social prescribing by 2023.

59% of family doctors believe social prescribing can help reduce workload.
25% of GPs say they are now using social prescribing.

2019
NHS England Long Term Plan released, with focus on personalized care and social prescribing. Commits to recruit 1,000 additional Social Prescribing Link Workers by 2021, and embed one in every Primary Care Network.

Social prescribing gains traction around the world:
- US - Kaiser Permanente launches Social Health Network to connect healthcare and social services providers
- Canada - Alliance for Healthier Communities social prescribing pilot underway
- Finland, Singapore, Australia, and more…
RESEARCH

- Self Confidence: Up
- Social Isolation: Down
- Mood: Up
- Anxiety: Down
- Resilience: Up
- Trips to the doctor: Down
- Participation in community: Up
- Preception of overall health: Up
WHAT ABOUT FOR CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS?
When I have social things to do, it helps with other stuff... Sometimes you’re just so focused on your issues, you don’t have time to recuperate, you don’t have time to refocus, and this break gives you an opportunity to just let go and unwind, even if it’s just a temporary escape of what is going on in your life and your circumstances.
“Having [a visit to the ROM] come from a health center, to have the tickets come from a person who knows more about you as an individual, who knows what’s going on in your body and mind, and tailoring it to you. It’s that holistic interaction between multiple areas of your life that makes it feel different.”
HOLES

What are the critical questions to consider when discussing, or advocating for, this type of work?
5000
ROM SOCIAL PRESCRIPTIONS

53
PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS
INTERESTED?
Here are a few things to consider...

- Tickets and Admission
- Partner Organizations
- Outcomes and Evaluation
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Stephen Legari
MA, MScA, ATPQ, ATR, CTF
Program Officer - Art Therapy
slegari@mbamtl.org
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