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# Social Environments for Health Webinar Series

## Part Three: Health Equity Focused Social Prescribing

Natasha Beaudin, Social Prescribing Project Lead, Alliance for Healthier Communities

Ali Hedge, Social Prescription Link Worker, Harrow Health Centre Family Health Team

Amanda McConkey, Community Health Promoter, Community Health Centres of Northumberland

Moderator: Andrea Bodkin, Senior Program Specialist-Health Promotion, Public Health Ontario

February 5, 2025

# Social Environments for Health

Webinar 1: Exploring social environments for health

Webinar 2: Stories from the Field

Webinar 3: Social Prescribing for Health Equity



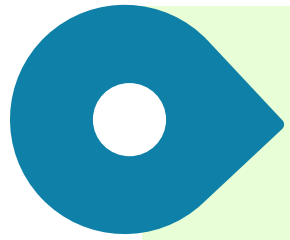
## FOCUS ON

### Social Environments for Health

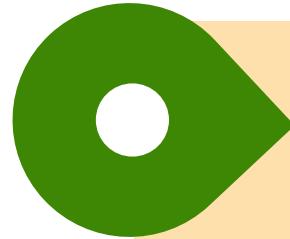


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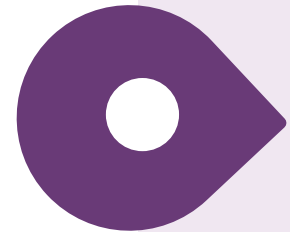
# Learning Objectives



**Describe the impacts of social environments on health**



**Explain the role of social prescribing and how it can contribute to building healthy social environments**



**Identify opportunities to build healthy social environments at the local level.**

# Social Prescribing for Health Equity



**Natasha Beaudin**

Social Prescribing Project Lead  
Alliance for Healthier Communities



**Ali Hedge**

Social Prescription Link Worker Harrow  
Health Centre, Family Health Team



**Amanda McConkey**

Community Health Promoter, Community  
Health Centres of Northumberland



# Health Equity Focused Social Prescribing at The Alliance for Healthier Communities

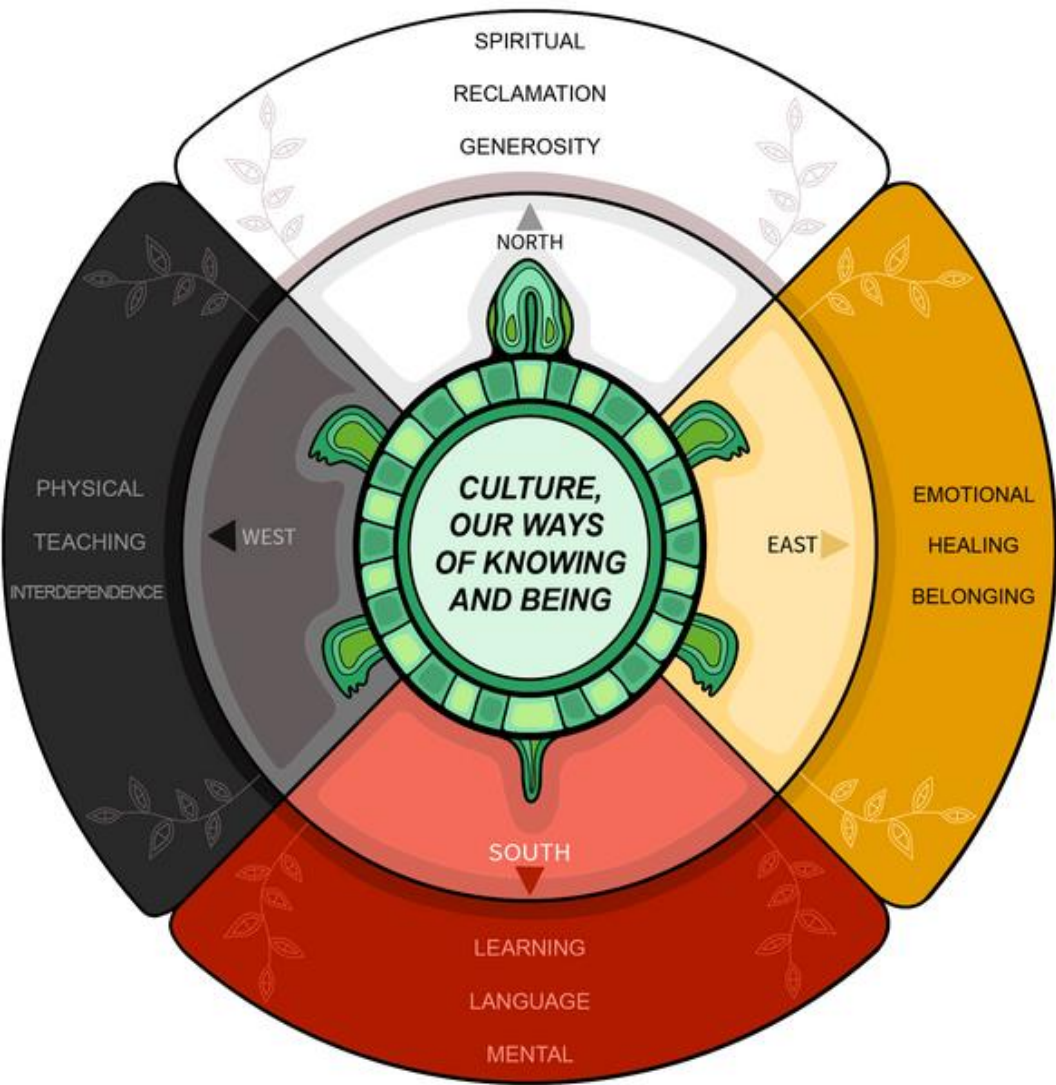
Natasha Beaudin, Social Prescribing Project Lead, Alliance for Healthier Communities

February 5, 2025





**Alliance for Healthier Communities**  
Alliance pour des communautés en santé

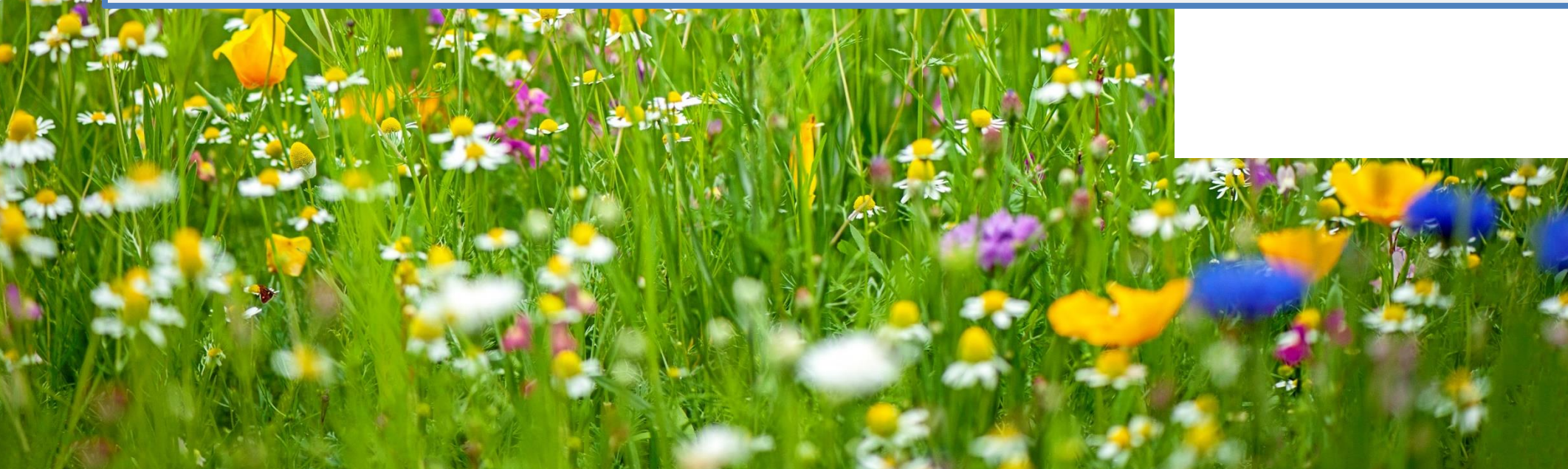
# SOCIAL PRESCRIBING AND THE MODEL OF HEALTH & WELLBEING







What is something that is non-clinical  
that supports your wellbeing?





# Ontario Health Social Determinants of Health Framework



- Alliance contributed the Ontario Health newly released [SDOH Framework](#)
- Framework highlights the collection and use of DOH and race-based data
- Specifically highlighted Social Prescribing work of the Alliance members as an example of good work underway

# SOCIAL PRESCRIBING PATHWAY COMPONENTS

## Client

Individual with social and medical needs, interests, and gifts.



## Data tracking

Track client journey, follow-up, and improve through a Learning Health System.



## Social Prescription

Individual connected to social and community supports with invitation to engage, co-create and give back.



## Prescriber

Healthcare provider identifies non-medical issues and makes a social prescription referral



## Navigator/Connector

Connects individual to appropriate resources based on self-identified interests and needs, and supports their journey to wellbeing.



# THE SOCIAL PRESCRIBING JOURNEY AT THE ALLIANCE

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SOCIAL  
PRESCRIBING  
BLACK  
FOCUSED



SOCIAL  
PRESCRIBING  
for better mental  
health



# Social Prescribing for Better Mental Health Objectives

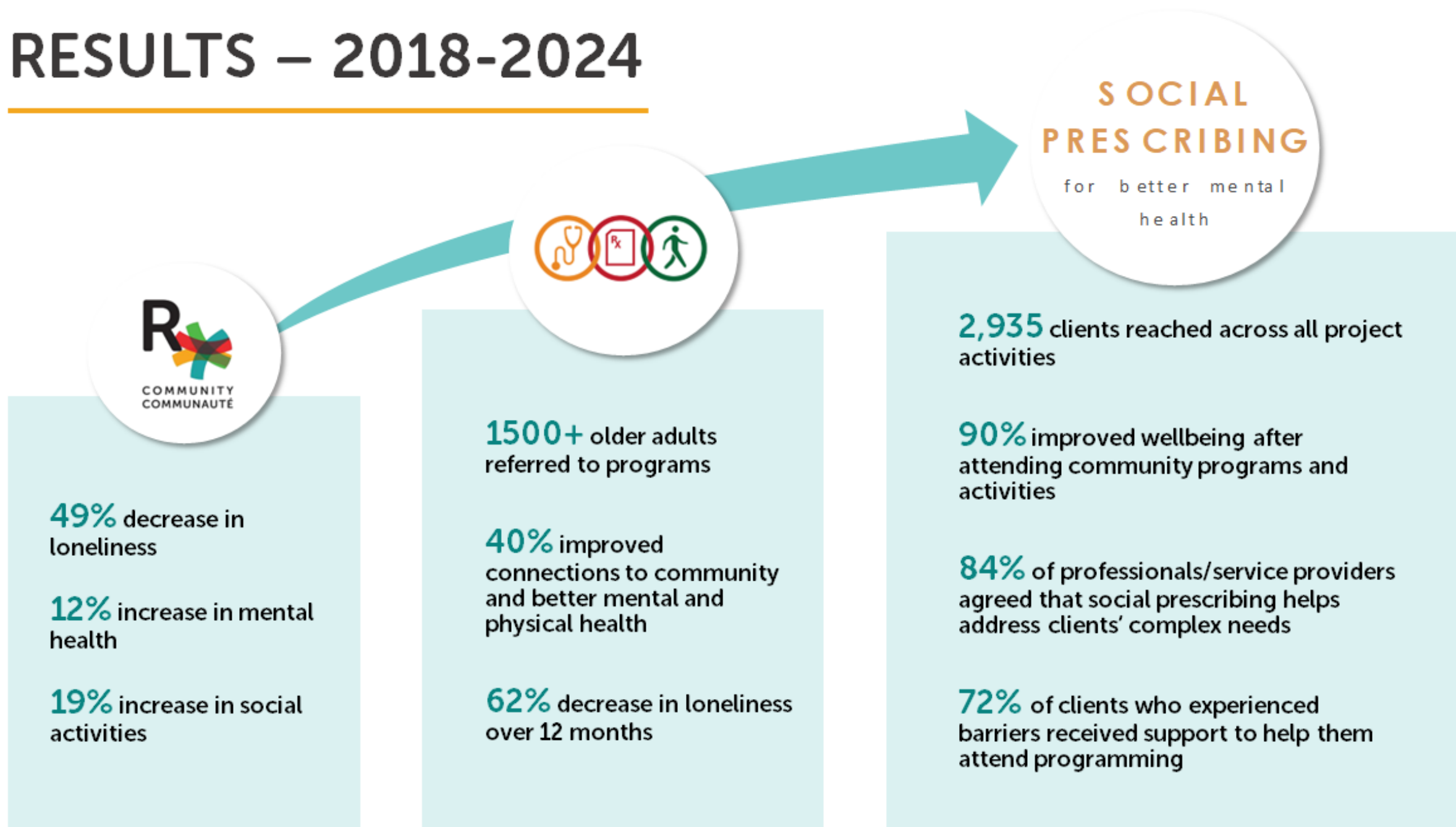


## Social Prescribing for Better Mental Health – Sites

28 sites across Ontario, Including: 13 additional sites in Spread and Scale

28 sites across  
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13 additional sites  
in Spread and Scale

# RESULTS – 2018-2024





# KEY RESULTS – BLACK-FOCUSED SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

## SUMMATIVE SURVEY: SNAPSHOT OF INTERIM FINDINGS





# Social Prescribing– in practice





# Social Prescribing– in practice





# Social Prescribing– in practice







# **Social Prescribing– in practice**

**A nurse is completing a well baby check up. During the course of the appointment, the nurse realizes that the client & her family are food insecure.**

**A client is attending healthy smiles dental check up...the parent mentions how high energy the child is and how they can not afford to do sports.**

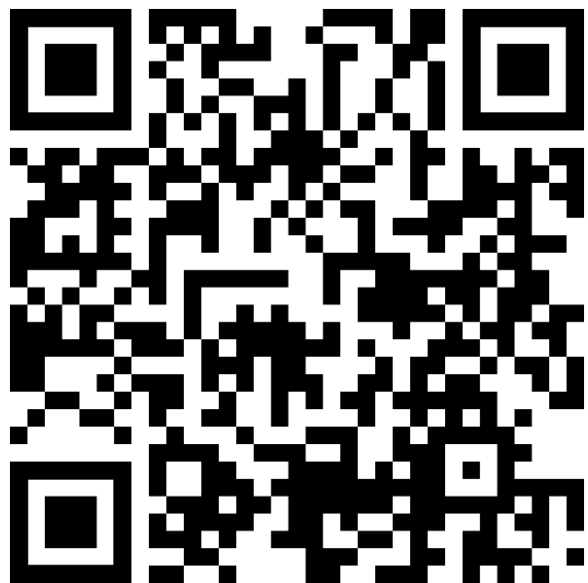
**A diabetes dietitian is meeting with a client...the client has not been able to complete the exercise goals suggested by their doctor.**



# Social Prescribing– in practice, in a public health setting

- 1) Facilitating partnerships and building networks** between health care & community organizations at a regional level, including identifying populations most in need of SP
- 2) Training and capacity building** – this could include health equity training for staff and volunteers at community organizations receiving referrals
- 3) Providing Funding and Resources**, resources could include screening tools for social determinants of health, allocating grants to address gaps in community programming
- 4) Advocate for policies** that integrate social prescribing into healthcare systems
- 5) Monitoring and Evaluation**, measure the impact of social prescribing at a regional level





## Social Prescribing: a resource for health professionals

Search Content 🔍

Developed by:



Centre  
for Effective  
Practice



Canadian Institute  
for Social Prescribing  
Anchored by the  
Canadian Red Cross



Alliance for Healthier Communities  
Advancing Health Equity in Ontario

<https://tools.cep.health/tool/social-prescribing/>





**Five** project profile videos, available online on our [Social Prescribing YouTube channel](#)





# Social Prescribing– Learning Events



# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Ontario Social Prescribing Community of Practice
- Canadian Social Prescribing Community of Practice
- Online Learning Modules
- [www.allianceon.org/Social-Prescribing](http://www.allianceon.org/Social-Prescribing)





# FINAL REPORTS

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- Links2Wellbeing Final Report
- Social Prescribing for Better Mental Health Final Report
- LinkWorkers Work Document
- [#keyresources](http://www.allianceon.org/Social-Prescribing)



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## LINKS2WELLBEING REPORT



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## SOCIAL PRESCRIBING FOR BETTER MENTAL HEALTH REPORT



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## Social Prescribing Link Workers Work!

Embed link workers in every interprofessional primary health care team.



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# Questions?

[Natasha.Beaudin@AllianceON.org](mailto:Natasha.Beaudin@AllianceON.org)

[www.allianceon.org/Social-Prescribing](http://www.allianceon.org/Social-Prescribing)

**Merci / Thank you/ Meegwetch**



# Fireside Chat



Natasha Beaudin, Social Prescribing Project Lead, Alliance for Healthier Communities  
Ali Hedge, Social Prescription Link Worker, Harrow Health Centre Family Health Team  
Amanda McConkey, Community Health Promoter, Community Health Centres of Northumberland

# Q&A





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