AIIHPC

All Ireland Institute of
Hospice and Palliative Care

*AIIHPC Social Prescribing Workshop*

*Wednesday 25th October 2023*

"Improving the palliative care experience across the island of Ireland"

# AIIHPC Member Organisations

# AIIHPC Funders

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhise Sláinte
Health Service Executive

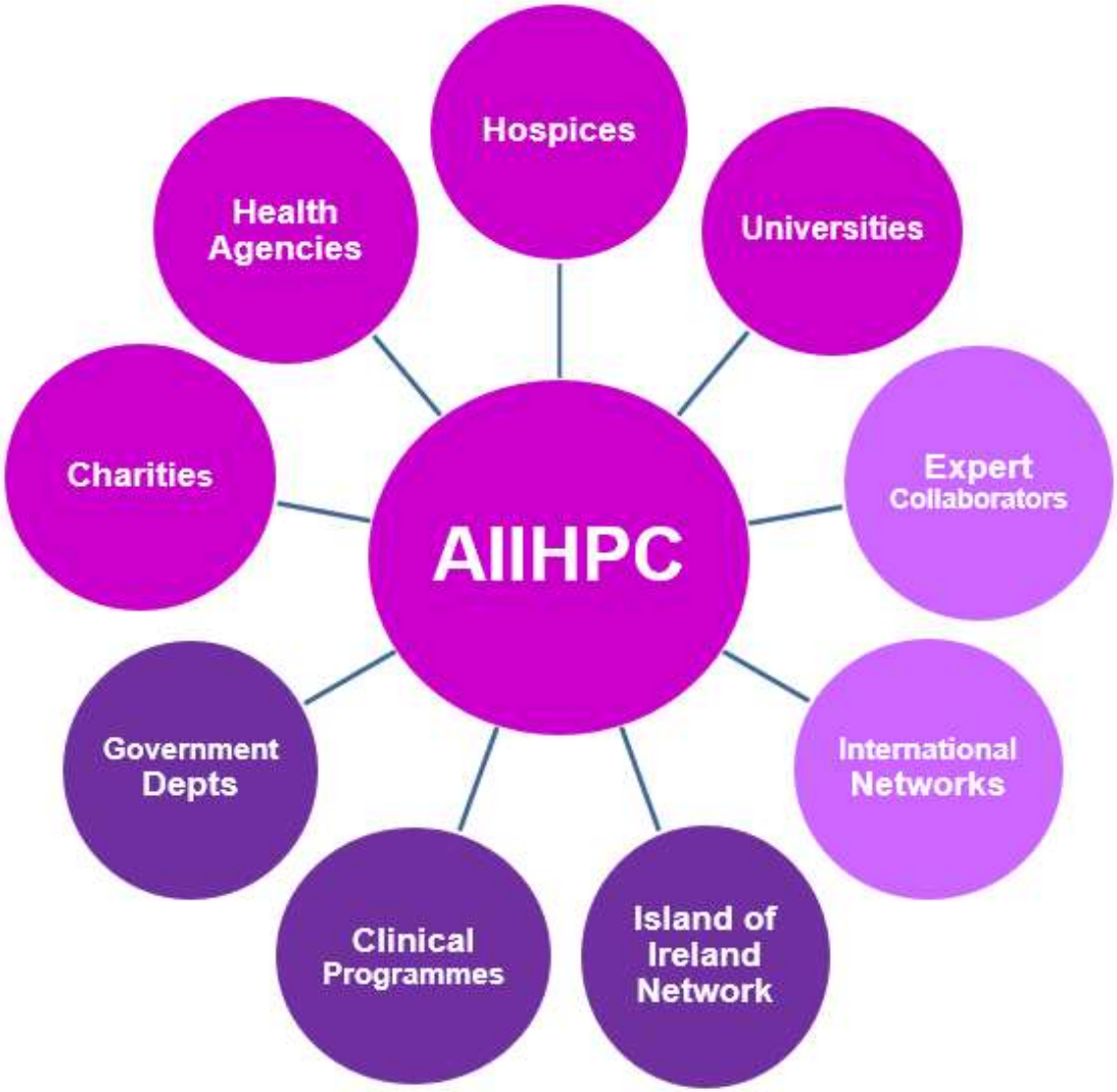
An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

HSC Public Health Agency

HSC Public Health Agency
Research and Development

HRB Health Research Board

# AIIHPC - Building collaborations on the island of Ireland and beyond



# Workshop Overview

- Introduction to Social Prescribing
- Summary of current delivery across Ireland
- Professor David Robinson
- Professor Mary Lynch
- Panel discussion
- Session close

# Social Prescribing

## UK Social Prescribing Network Definition

"Social Prescribing is a means of enabling GPs and other frontline healthcare professionals to refer patients to a link worker - to provide them with a face to face conversation during which they can learn about the possibilities and design their own personalised solutions, i.e. 'co-produce' their 'social prescription'- so that people with social, emotional or practical needs are empowered to find solutions which will improve their health and wellbeing, often using services provided by the voluntary and community sector"

# Social Prescribing in Ireland

HSE definition

"Social prescribing is an effective means of engaging people in non-clinical activities and services in their communities in order to promote their health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. It generally involves healthcare and other professionals referring people to a social prescribing link worker, who supports them to access local services through discussion and joint decision-making"

# Social Prescribing in Northern Ireland

## NI Social Prescribing Board Baseline report as of May 2022

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Spring SP | 13 Healthy Living Centres led by Bogside and Brandywell Health Forum | National Lottery Community Fund |
| Spring Enhanced Rural Project | 10 rural organisations led by Derg Valley Care | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) |
| Connected Community Care | A partnership between Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, GP Federations and community and voluntary organisations | Belfast Local Commissoning Group and MacMillan |
| IMPACTAgewell® | Mid and East Antrim Age Well Partnership working with GP practices and community pharmacies | Dunhill Medical Trust and Health and Social Care Board |
| Community Health Trainers | Southern Health and Social Care Trust (SHSCT) through the Verve Network | Department for Communities (DfC) |
| Caring Communities | South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust (SEHSCT) | South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust (SEHSCT |

# Social Prescribing in Northern Ireland

Key learning:

- Alignment with the current definitions of Social Prescribing  influenced by two key factors: referral sources and intensity of approach.
- Holistic Social Prescribing plus links to MDT / Primary Care
- Referral criteria – age, geography and extent of the presenting issue.
- Lack of consistency in respect of terminology and language used across projects for both staff and those engaged by Social Prescribing services.
- In more integrated models there appears a greater likelihood for access to resources that enables ‘money to follow the patient’ although this could be enhanced significantly.

# Social Prescribing in Northern Ireland

Current situation:

Spring no longer funded

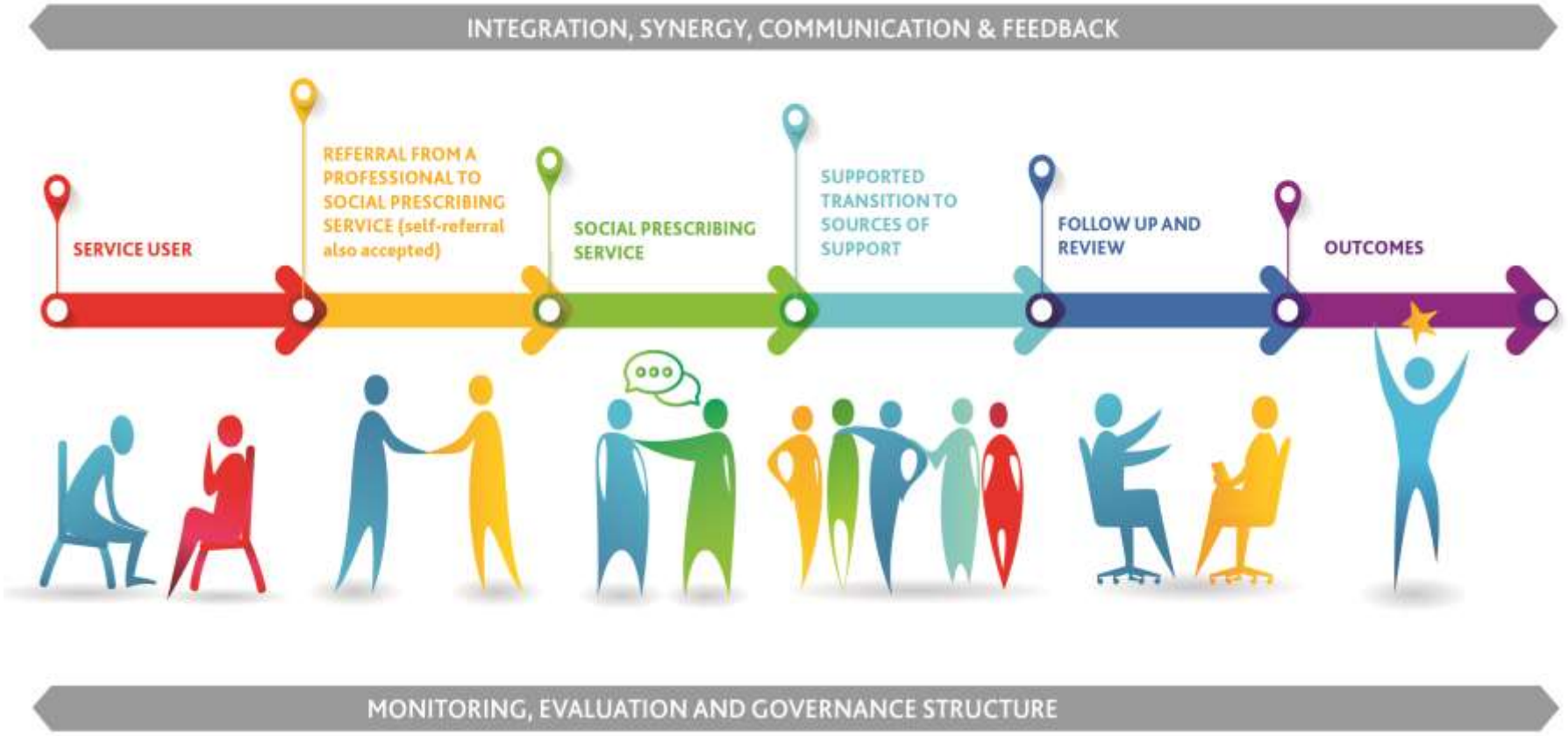
Other models still in operation

NI Social Prescribing Board is not meeting

# HSE Social Prescribing Framework

- A common approach for the delivery of social prescribing within the HSE
- Designed to support those involved in the delivery of HSE funded Social prescribing services.

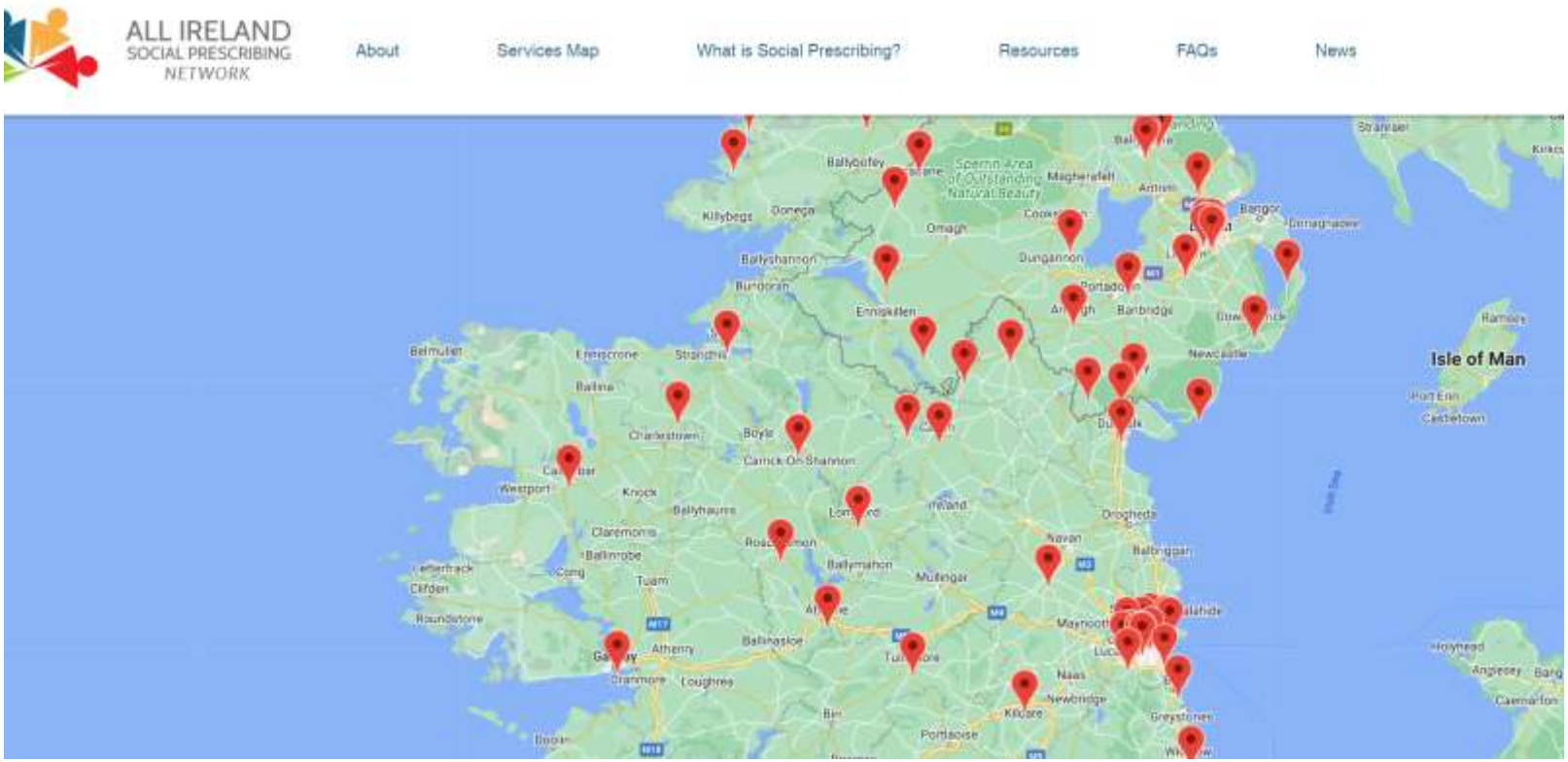
# Social prescribing pathway



# HSE Delivery Model & Implementation

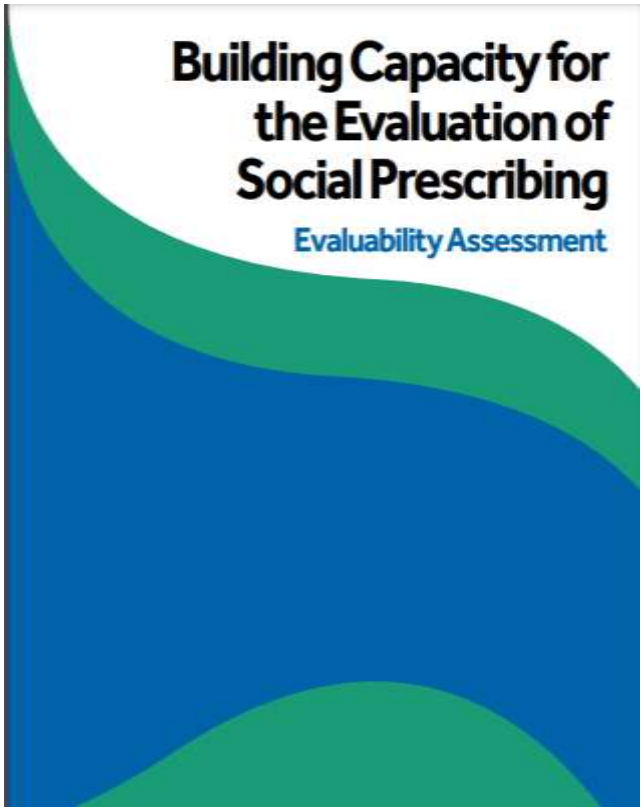
- Slaintecare Healthy Communities Initiative will provide sustainable long-term funding for social prescribing in targeted areas of disadvantage
- Implementation started in 2021 with 19 sites – 47 HSE-funded sites by the end of 2023.

# All Ireland Social Prescribing Network



# EVALUATION

- Minimum outcomes related to personal wellbeing & social connectedness
- Qualitative data
- Procurement of a digital software platform to support the collection of output and outcome data to commence



# Summary

- Opportunities for palliative care
- Links to in-house, home based and community care
- Complementary and adds value
- Requires planning, resource and leadership