

Social Prescribing Without Borders: Insights from Canada and the UK

April 22, 2025

8:00am – 12:30pm (EST)

Hosted by the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC),

Office of the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation

Agenda (details subject to change)

8:00 – 8:10 AM | Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

- Opening remarks from Andrea Charise, Associate Vice Principal Research and Innovation (Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships), OVPRI, University of Toronto Scarborough;
- Land acknowledgment, Brief overview of event objectives, Recording advisement

8:10 – 8:30 AM | "Social Prescribing as System Change: Building Pathways Across Clinics, Communities, and Campuses"

- Plenary speaker: Dr. Nicole D'souza, Embedded Researcher, Jack.org; CIHR Health Systems Impact Fellow, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

8:30 – 10:00 AM | Panel 1: Social Prescribing in Canada

- **Srija Biswas** MHSC, Project Manager and **Safiya Clarke-Mendes** MPH, Education and Learning Specialist; Canadian Institute for Social Prescribing
- **Lisa Hughes**, Supervisor of Community Health Teams (Interprofessional Primary Care Team and Diabetes Education Program), and **Miranda Singh**, Mental Health Case Worker, Interprofessional Primary Care Team; Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities
- **Shari A. Russell Opara**, MEd, Director, Health & Wellness; and **Abisha Pathmanathan** MPH Cand., Program Coordinator, Student Wellness, Health & Wellness Centre - Office of Student Experience and Wellbeing, University of Toronto Scarborough

Moderated discussion followed by audience Q&A

10:00 – 10:10 AM | Break

10:10 – 11:40 AM | Panel 2: Social Prescribing in UK

- **Dr. Rob Dean**, University of Lincoln – *Social Prescribing in the UK: Evidence & Impact*
- **Joya Barrow**, Independent Artist - *Unearthing Stories from the Soil: A Listening Project*
- **Dr. Paige E. Davis**, University of Leeds & Theatre Hullabaloo - *Creative Play on Prescription*
- **Sara Macqueen & Christopher Radford**, Linden Dance – *The Role of the Arts as a Powerful tool in Social Prescribing*
- **Andy Garner**, Voluntary Centre Services, *Link Worker Q&A*

Moderated discussion followed by audience Q&A

11:40 – 11:45 AM | Break

11:45 – 12:30 PM | From Prescription to Participation: A UK-Canada Roundtable Dialogue on Social Prescribing

- Open conversation among panelists, organizers, and attendees
- Facilitated by Dr. Nicole D’Souza
- Key takeaways from the day’s discussions
- Closing reflections