

## **Social Prescribing Initiatives: Social Prescribing Bendigo**

**Service:** The Greater Bendigo Social Prescribing Program was a service for health professionals to refer patients who required low level support to connect with social activities in community.

**Main Component:** Participants who were referred by a health professional were connected with a Link Worker through City of Greater Bendigo to assess interests and capacity in order to connect people with local activities. Capacity building for communities through support to develop groups or activities. Assistance for other agencies working with vulnerable population groups to discover available social wellbeing opportunities in the Bendigo region.

**Who is this for?** Participants living with chronic or complex illness, low level anxiety and depression.

**Outcomes:** Program was focused on connecting health with community and making social prescribing a part of the health professional tool kit to build stronger social connection and encourage wellbeing activities. The program was funded until June 2023.

**Organisations-involved:** City of Greater Bendigo.

**Keywords:** Social Prescribing / Community Connection / Healthy communities

**Source:** Suezanne Martin, Health Services Coordinator, Murray PHN. T: 0479 077282, E: [smartin@murrayphn.org.au](mailto:smartin@murrayphn.org.au)