



VCFA Beacon Service

Social Prescribing Support for Health & Social Care

www.buryvcfa.org.uk

What is Social Prescribing

VCFA Beacon social prescribing service helps patients access support and help in the local Voluntary Community and Faith Sector (VCSE) that can help them improve their health and wellbeing. It is independent and not part of the NHS, however we work in partnership with our NHS especially the GP surgeries and Primary Care Networks.

The term 'social prescribing' is used to describe a service which supports people to access a range of non-medical services and activities in their local area.



Introduction

Beacon Service

Social Prescribing support
for Health & Social Care

BEACON
SERVICE



Social Prescribing in Bury

Offers patients something more than a medical intervention

Reduces pressure on stretched services – GP's and hospital services

Patients benefit from 'taking control' and finding ways to keep well

Lots of social activity and support in the community

Opportunity to improve health and wellbeing, reduce loneliness, chronic health conditions



Social Prescribing in Bury

Contractual requirement to help

- Low Self-esteem/Confidence
- Physical Inactivity
- Social isolation and loneliness
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Life events e.g. bereavement,
- Long term health conditions
- Anxiety due to issues such as housing
Finance, work or relationships

Beacon does not provide any direct service we signpost to support via the VCSE sector

Eligibility

Beacon supports people who are:

- Aged 18+
- Registered with a Bury GP
- Is a Bury Resident
- Willing to engage with the programme
and be supported

The service is voluntary and if a patient is not ready to be supported we may not be able to accept the referral





Beacon Service

How we help

Resources

- Over 500 VCSE groups on our database
- 100's of Volunteering Opportunities
- 1000's of community based activities
 - Social Clubs e.g. Lunch
 - Leisure activities – e.g. walking, gardening
 - Arts, culture and creative activities
 - Befriending and support groups.
 - Welfare benefits and financial support
 - Emotional wellbeing

Beacon does not provide any direct service we signpost to support via the VCSE sector

Our Service gives

- Clear navigation and simple access
- Wide range of support services in the VCSE.
- greater control of their own health
- Improve in mental health and wellbeing
- Involvement in the community
- Learn new skill or participate in a new activity
- Increase self- confidence and self esteem
- Better quality of life





Beacon Service Outcomes

Outcomes

- 877 patients supported in the last 12 months
- 66.7% of referrals are aged 45 and over
- 78% of referrals have accessed the service due to feeling socially isolated.
- 62% of referrals have accessed the service for mental support

Impact

- 60% referrals increased their satisfaction
- 40% increase in feeling worthwhile
- 80% increased happiness levels
- 80% decrease in anxiety levels



Beacon Service Outcomes

Outcomes

- 18 – 24 = 54
- 25 – 34 = 70
- 35 – 44 = 82
- 45 – 54 = 111
- 55 – 64 = 110
- 65 – 74 = 69
- 75 – 84 = 71
- Over 85 = 52
- Not Known - 258

Ethnicity

- Not currently recorded but this has now been amended and will be collected from 1st April

Conditions

- These are captured in the individual patients notes. A summary will be provided in due course



Contact

Sajid Hashmi

0161 518 5550

beaconservice@buryvcfa.org.uk

www.buryvcfa.org.uk

