Social Prescribing and Creative Aging Resources

The following resources include research and studies, reports, programs, and initiatives on social prescribing developed, researched, and/or supported by Tasha Golden, PhD, Director of Research at the International Arts + Mind Lab at Johns Hopkins Medicine; Sudha Shreeniwas, PhD, Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at University of North Carolina Greensboro; and Käthe Swaback, Program Officer, Mass Cultural Council (Creative Youth Development and CultureRx: Social Prescription Pilot Program).

USA:

- Book: *Your Brain On Art: How the Arts Transform Us* by Susan Magsamen, and Ivy Ross (2023)
- The MoMA Alzheimer’s Project: *Meet Me at MoMA*
- Book: *Creative Care: A Revolutionary Approach to Dementia and Elder Care* by Anne Basting, PhD (2020)
- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA): *Accessibility: Creativity & Aging Resources*
- National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA): *Creative Aging Programs & Resources*
- *Sound Health: A NIH (National Institute of Health) & John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Partnership*

Massachusetts:

- Mass Cultural Council launched the *CultureRx Initiative* in January 2020, as the first social prescription initiative focused on the arts and culture in the United States.
- Phase II and III of the program ran from July 2020 to June 30th and expanded the program to include 12 organizations from throughout the state.
- The results of Phase III were captured in the *Mass Cultural Council’s “CultureRx” Evaluation Report*. The report highlights the impact and potential of the social prescription of cultural experiences for patients, providers, and cultural organizations. Read more here - [The CultureRx Social Prescription Blog Post with links](#) and see the [New Round of Investments Made in Social Prescription + social prescription blog posts](#).
- *The Trust Transfer Project and CultureRx: Social Prescription*

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Mass Cultural Council Article: Card to Culture: A Stone Soup Story (2022) documents how for 5 years, 300+ cultural organizations have provided 780K free or discounted admissions to cultural experiences (Mass Cultural Council in partnership with EBT Card to Culture and ConnectorCare)

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Article: Design for Social Prescribing: Bridging Silos for Health Promotion (2023)

International:

- Establishing Internationally Accepted Conceptual and Operational Definitions of Social Prescribing Through Expert Consensus: A Delphi Study (2022)
- The Social Biobehavioural Research Group at University College London Report: New Report by UCL Researchers Links Participating in Arts and Culture to Longer, Healthier Lives (2023) (the summary report from this work)

Articles/Videos/Networks:

- WIRED Magazine Article: A Radical Plan to Treat Covid’s Mental Health Fallout (2021)
- Time Magazine Article: Why Some Doctors Are Prescribing Ballroom Dance or a Day at the Museum (2022)
- Social Prescribing USA network and newsletter and if you wish to subscribe.