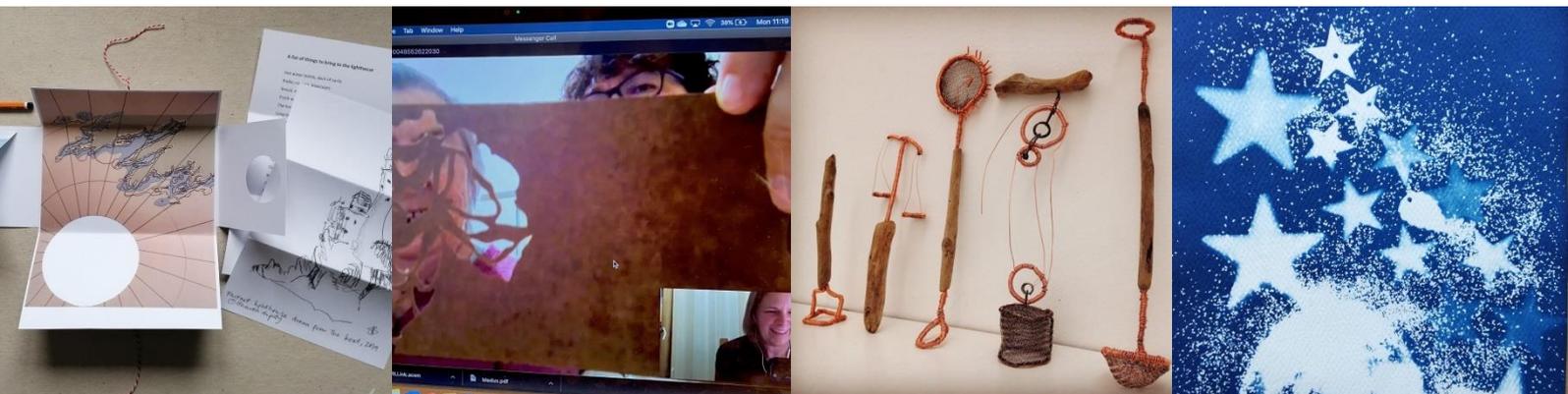




Tender issued 16 February 2021

An Invitation to Submit Expressions of Interest to conduct an evaluative research of Arts for Health Partnership Programme, West Cork.



Arts for Health is a partnership programme based in West Cork implementing a managed arts programme for older people in healthcare settings.

Arts for Health Partnership invites tenders from qualified individuals and organisations to undertake a research study of the Arts for Health Programme with a view to responding to the changing objectives of the partner organisations.

Rationale

The results of this research will

- inform the development of a new Strategic Plan for the programme
- assist in developing the programme to meet the changing needs and circumstances of the participants
- help build a more sustainable stakeholder infrastructure

An introduction to Arts for Health, West Cork

Arts for Health Partnership Programme is based in West Cork and provides a managed and integrated arts programme for older people in healthcare settings.

The programme takes place in twelve geographically widespread rural locations including Uillinn West Cork Arts Centre, five Day Care Centres: Bantry, Castletownbere, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Skibbereen; five Community Hospitals: Castletownbere, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Schull, Skibbereen; and Bantry General Hospital, Care of the Elderly Unit.

Arts for Health Partnership

Arts for Health, West Cork is based on an inter-agency partnership between West Cork Arts Centre, Cork County Council's Arts Office, Cork Education & Training Board and Cork Kerry Community Healthcare. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (Health Service Executive, HSE) is represented by Cork South Community Work Department, the Nursing Directors of Community Hospitals and Social Care, specifically the Day Care Centres, West Cork.

The make-up of the partnership demonstrates the commitment of regional arts, education and health organisations working together, with the HSE and West Cork Arts Centre playing the two key significant roles.

Arts for Health Programme

Access to and engagement with the arts in healthcare settings improves the quality of life for the individuals in residential care. It encourages conversation and links with the wider hospital community. By being integrated into the culture of the care setting, the programme allows ideas and the individual creative interests of the participants to be nurtured, developed and implemented over time.

Community Hospital Arts Programme focuses on consistency of delivery and is tailored to the participants' creative needs. It is structured around a weekly group workshop and regular one-to-one bedside support to encourage and develop individual creative ideas. The content of the workshops evolves in response to conversations between artists and participants.

Day Care Centre Arts Programme is project-based and supports an ethos of creative exchange and experimentation between the artist and participant. The projects aim to be stimulating, enjoyable and culturally relevant for participants and each differs in the style of delivery.

Background

Arts for Health Partnership Programme began with a ten week action research pilot project in response to Ageing with Confidence: a strategy for the people of Cork and Kerry in the United Nations International Year of the Older Person in 2002. Recommendations from the project resulted in the forming of a new partnership between the local arts, health, education and local authority, each with a stake hold in enhancing the lives of older people in West Cork.

The Arts for Health Partnership met over two years before implementing the programme in May of 2005. The programme had a team of two artists working weekly across five Community Hospitals. At the start of 2020, the Programme had a core team of nine artists serving eleven healthcare settings. During the COVID 19 pandemic the programme evolved and adapted to being delivered remotely in five residential units and at home for over 200 older day care participants.

The Arts for Health partnership is committed to ongoing evaluation and reflective practice. Measures such as Artists' team meetings, online documentation, reflective journals and collecting and disseminating feedback from participants and other stakeholders are structured into the programme management. In addition to regular reports and evaluation processes, the partnership has commissioned two evaluation documents, the first in 2005 at the outset of the programme ***Conversations in Colour: Evaluation of an Arts for Health Partnership Programme 2005/6***, by Jennifer Russell and the second in 2010 when the programme expanded to include five Day Care Centres, ***Arts for Health Partnership: Day Care Centre Evaluation Report*** by Ann O'Connor and Charlotte Donovan.

As evidence of the partnership's commitment to 'maintain and improve communications and advocacy' (AfH strategy 2013-2016) the partners commissioned film maker and animator Jane Lee to document their effective partnership model. This short animation playfully demonstrates the roles and responsibilities of the partnership and stakeholders in supporting, managing and implementing the programme <https://vimeo.com/81618736>

The animation and strategy were both officially launched on **10 December, 2013 at Clonakilty Community Hospital**, with guest speakers Gabrielle O'Keeffe, General Manager, HSE Cork and Ann O'Connor, Arts and Health Advisor to the Arts Council.

On 9 June, 2015 at Dunmanway Community Hospital, Cllr Alan Coleman launched ***By the Smoke of the Train***, a limited publication, a collection of people's stories and experiences of the railway that ran through West Cork during the 1940s and 1950s illustrated with some of the participants' own drawings and paintings.

An information leaflet was designed for new participants to receive on admission and launched alongside the new **Strategic Plan 2017- 2020 by Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People Jim Daly TD at Dunmanway Community Hospital, 24 November 2017** with many other esteemed guest including Mayor of Cork County, Declan Hurley Cllr, Ann O'Connor, Arts Council and Gabrielle O'Keeffe, Head of Social Care, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.

In February 2017, we doubled the number of workshops delivered in each of the long term units from 44 to 88 sessions in the year to give more creative choice for participants. The artists team was significantly increased with the recruitment of a new team of composers and musicians to deliver this expanded programme. The Day Care programme was also significantly increased from 17 to 21 sessions per year in each setting, rising again in 2019 to 25 sessions.

After several years of communicating, documenting and sharing through our online wiki, established in 2008, a new website was launched in 2017 www.artsforhealthwestcork.com providing news on events, who is on the artist team, some highlighted projects, information on each participating healthcare settings, the supporting learning programmes and the partners.

Two public art works were launched in 2018 **Sail on** and **110 Skibbereen Girls**. '**Sail on**' is a large scale glasswork remembering the lives of the residents funded by the Friends of the hospital. It was installed and celebrated with a launch on 11 April 2018 with guest TD Michael Collins and Danny Collins Cllr. **110 Skibbereen Girls** is a series of bronze cast spoons installed at the entrance to the old workhouse. The project received funding under the Cork County Council Municipal Districts Creative Communities Scheme and a HSE National Lottery Award. It brought together all the staff, residents and service users at Skibbereen Hospital Campus to research the heritage of their shared place in remembrance of the story of 110 Skibbereen girls who left Ireland for Australia as part of the Earl Grey Scheme during the Great Famine. The sculpture was launched in July 2018 with a new Skibbereen Hospital Choir and a guest speaker from the Australian Embassy.

Also in 2018, the programme was a partner in a national conference Check Up Check In with artsandhealth.ie taking place at Crawford Art Gallery in April 2018. A short film documenting the newly implemented music strand of the programme 'Carepool' was screened and two artists from the programme shared their work at the conference.

First performed in St. Joseph's Unit, Bantry General Hospital on January 18th, 2019, **Stories from the Well Field** was a collaboration between Arts for Health Partnership Programme participants and artist Tess Leak, puppeteer Eoin Lynch and Composer Justin Grounds. Funded by an Art Council Arts Participation Project Award this project took Arts for Health in the new direction of theatre production and performance. The project also received an Award by artsandhealth.ie to support the making of a film by Sharon Whooley documenting the project. The two Awards gave the artists involved an opportunity to raise the profile of their work to a national level, elevating the programmes profile.

The same team of Tess Leak and Sharon Whooley put the Arts for Health programme back in the national limelight for their work on the **Museum of Song Postal Project**. A swift and innovative response to remote working during pandemic restrictions.



Research Brief

Research Aim - *Effective Resilience*

Evaluate the Arts for Health Partnership Programme for older people in twelve healthcare settings across West Cork with a view to making recommendations for inclusion in a strategic plan.

The study should:

- Demonstrate the efficacy of the programme delivery for participants
- Demonstrate the efficacy of the programme in providing value for money
- Define the current infrastructure and make recommendations for sustaining and embedding the programme
- Question our current boundaries including agency, geography, age and public/private/community sector
- Investigate and make a comparison with other models of similar practice, nationally and internationally
- Establish a benchmark to measure the development of the programme going forward

The research should include proposed recommendations to accompany the report findings.

Research Methodology

Applicants are invited to outline the particular research methods and sampling techniques they intend to employ to address the research brief and to demonstrate their knowledge of appropriate research methods to fulfil the brief outlined above.

Timeframe

The research should be completed by November 2021 and

What should be included in Expression of Interest (3 page PDF):

- An overview of the process, timelines and methodologies to be used
- Suggestion of a comparative model to exhibit knowledge of the arts and health sector- national or international
- A budget including vat for the delivery of the outputs in the sought-after timeline. (Interested parties should note that West Cork Arts Centre is a registered charity and not VAT registered)

Also a short CV of the person(s) who will be actually doing the work with two referees who can vouch for the quality and delivery of similar projects. Links to examples of work maybe included.

Ethical, Consent & Confidentiality Procedures

Applicants should outline how they propose to comply with research ethics standards and vulnerable persons protection guidelines. Garda vetting maybe required.

Reporting + Guidance

An advisory group representing each of the partner organisations will guide the conduct of the research. The successful applicant will be required to work with this advisory group throughout the duration of the project and attend meetings of this group, as required. Reporting directly to the Programme Manager

Roles + Responsibilities

The successful applicant will be responsible for accessing research participants, undertaking the research and producing the final report, developed to publishable standards. Applicants should be cognisant of the governments guidelines and framework for living with COVID-19 and have the relevant technologies in place to conduct the research work within this.

Ownership of the information and final report

Ownership of the report related to the project will reside with the Arts for Health Programme Partners

Finance

The maximum budget for this project is €8,000.00 (including VAT) and this should include all costs such as institutional fees, administration costs and expenses incurred. Applicants should provide a detailed breakdown of costs, as this research is being conducted on a not-for-profit basis.

The selected researcher will need to hold their own Public Liability Insurance.

Payment

A payment schedule will be agreed with the successful applicant. The following schedule is proposed:

- €2500 to be paid on signing the contract – March 2021
- €2500 to be paid on receipt of draft report – October 2021
- remainder to be paid on receipt of full research report – November 2021

Payments will be made within 28 days of receipt of an invoice. If at any stage during the research, the agreed level of quality of the research is not adhered to, payment may be withheld.

Queries

Any queries in relation to an expression of interest should be sent to justine@westcorkartscentre.com by 22 Feb 2021

How to Apply

Please submit an to Expression of Interest by email with subject **AFH RESEARCH APPLICATION 2021**

Please attach a maximum of two PDF documents to include an Expression of Interest (as detailed above) and a CV with links to examples of previous work

The deadline for receipt of completed proposals is 4pm, Thursday 4 March to justine@westcorkartscentre.com

Criteria for Selection

The decision will be made based on the closest possible match between the submitted Expression of Interest and our sought-after outputs as detailed above. Shortlisted candidates will be requested to attend an online interview week of 10/11/12 March.

The lowest price offer will not necessarily secure the contract.

Useful Resources

<http://www.artsandhealth.ie/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Conversations-in-Colour.pdf>

www.artsforhealthwestcork.com

www.artsandhealth.ie

<http://www.artscouncil.ie/arts-council-strategy/>

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/hl/hi/documentsandlinks.html>

Arts for Health is a partnership programme based in West Cork implementing a managed arts programme for older people in healthcare settings. Managed by West Cork Arts Centre, Arts for Health runs all year round and is delivered by team of professional artists from different disciplines. It takes place in five Community Hospitals, Bantry General Hospital Care of the Elderly Unit and five Day Care Centres throughout West Cork. The partners comprise West Cork Arts Centre, Cork County Council, Cork Education & Training Board and Cork Kerry Healthcare, HSE. The HSE is represented through the Cork Arts + Health Programme, the Health Promotion Department, and the Nursing Directors of Community Hospitals and Day Care Centres, West Cork.



Cork
County Council
Comhairle Contae Chorcaí



The Arts for Health partnership gratefully acknowledges the local support towards the programme with special thanks to **West Cork Older People's Network** and **Friends of the Day Care Centres**.

www.artsforhealthwestcork.com

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