Over
400 people
offered access to
participate in Arts fo
Health

"I love doing it. It passes a piece of the day away."

> " It made me feel good, it lifted me"

"The programme brings a new element to the daily life of our residents and this has a positive impact on our residents' wellbeing and mood which can improve their overall

"My
aspiration is to
bring a little bit of
magic and delight into the
hospital environment, whil
offering a meaningful,
relevant and interesting
programme for the
participants"

"Over 95% thought it fulfilled patient expectations and has become an expected part of their service delivery, creating a relaxed, shared and creative experience."









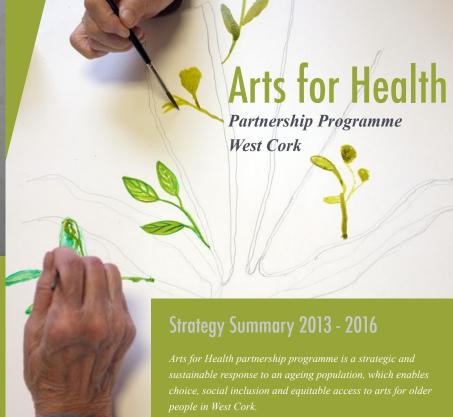


West Cork Arts Centre is funded by



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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 eleven geographically widespread rural locations including five day care centres: Castletownbere, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Schull, Skibbereen; five Community Hospitals: Castletownbere, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Schull, Skibbereen; and Bantry General Hospital, Care of the Elderly Unit.

The Arts for Health programme is based on an inter-agency partnership between the West Cork Arts Centre, Cork County Council's Arts Office, Cork Education and Training Board and the HSE. The HSE is represented by Cork Arts + Health Programme, the Health Promotion Department, the Nursing Directors of Community Hospitals and the Day Care Centres, West Cork. The delivery of the programme is through The Arts for Health artists' team which is managed by West Cork Arts Centre. They have established a close, professional working relationship with the staff and management of each care setting. 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.

Our programme of work celebrates creativity and forms new focal points for experimentation and exchange between all participants. The artists, each with distinctly different practices, have developed their professional expertise in working with older people and numerous individual and collaborative projects have been undertaken since it began in 2005.

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 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. Each differs in the style of delivery; some adopting a short directive encounter, while others prefer more extended engagement.

Arts for Health Service Developments

- 1. Support programme sustainability
 - Clarify roles and responsibilities
 - Respond to external organisational changes
 - Commit to resourcing and securing finances
 - Enhance interdisciplinary working and communication
 - Continue programme evaluation and reflective practice
 - Link the programme to a continuum of care from active retirement through to daycare, respite and hospital care

2. Respond to changing needs of participants who increasingly fall into two categories:

- a) Participants who have a range of abilities and are characterised as having a high dependency, including dementia related conditions
- b) Participants who are on short stay respite from the community
- Reallocate resources for more one to one activities.
- Signpost existing supports within each sector

3. Support excellence through development of expertise

- Maintain and develop a pool of expertise
- Build-in sustainability of expertise
- Initiate relevant research and documentation.
- Expand training and learning opportunities

4. Maintain and improve communications

- Build strategic alliances
- Communicate expertise
- Communicate value for money
- Findance internal communication.
- Provide systematic and creative documentation
- Ensure visible methods of accountability
- Take more testimonials make commitment to hearing voices in diverse ways
- Celebrate achievements