

Strategic Priorities

- > Participant at the heart
- > Building resilience
- > Sharing learning
- > Artistic innovation

Participant at the heart

- Continue to place the experience of the participants at the centre of the programme, seeking out their opinions, input, meeting their needs, recognising diversity and respecting dignity.
- Develop and embed creative engagements for people who care for older participants on the programme such as family carers through the Creative Carers Programme:
 - People receiving healthcare at home/ who may not have returned to Day Care
 - Older people and family carers, facilitated by resource centres and local link services
- Explore developing the programme to work with St. Joseph's unit at Bantry General Hospital to include people with dementia in the acute setting.
- Continue involvement with Creative Compassionate Culture Network initiative led by Irish Hospice Foundation with a view to creatively supporting people/families experiencing loss.

Building Resilience

- Maintain the geographical focus of the programme in West Cork (CHN10), with expansion of the programme in the following areas:
 - Learning Programmes (3rd level placement, mentor, online)
 - New Communities (Family Carers, Peninsulas, Island Communities)

- Streamline and increase funding to support this defined growth, allowing for more robust planning, programme development and reporting.
- Build artistic and administrative capacity to sustain programme growth, knowledge, development, and delivery.
- Contribute to Uillinn's Climate Action Plan.
- Invest in healthcare staff, increase learning opportunities, continuing to seek their input and promote programme commitment on every level.

Sharing learning

- Share our learning and experience to support recognition and development of Arts and Health practice nationally.
- Engage in research to gain better understanding of the issues involved in geographical expansion.
- Continue to learn about and from international Arts and Health practice, taking opportunity to learn, share and platform the experiences of the Arts for Health programme.
- Engage in regional and national dialogue in relation to practice and standards in Arts and Health Practice.
- Celebrate 25 years.

Artistic Innovation

- Stay playful, creative, curious, and ambitious.
- Support artists team to innovate and introduce new concepts and ways of working into their practice.
- Support our artists as field leaders, signposting opportunity to expand and share their learning and respecting national levels of pay and conditions
- Continue to invest in support for artists through residencies, career advice clinics, training programmes, mentoring and collaborative opportunities
- Creatively document and record the work.

Arts For Health Partnership Programme West Cork

Strategic Plan 2023-2028

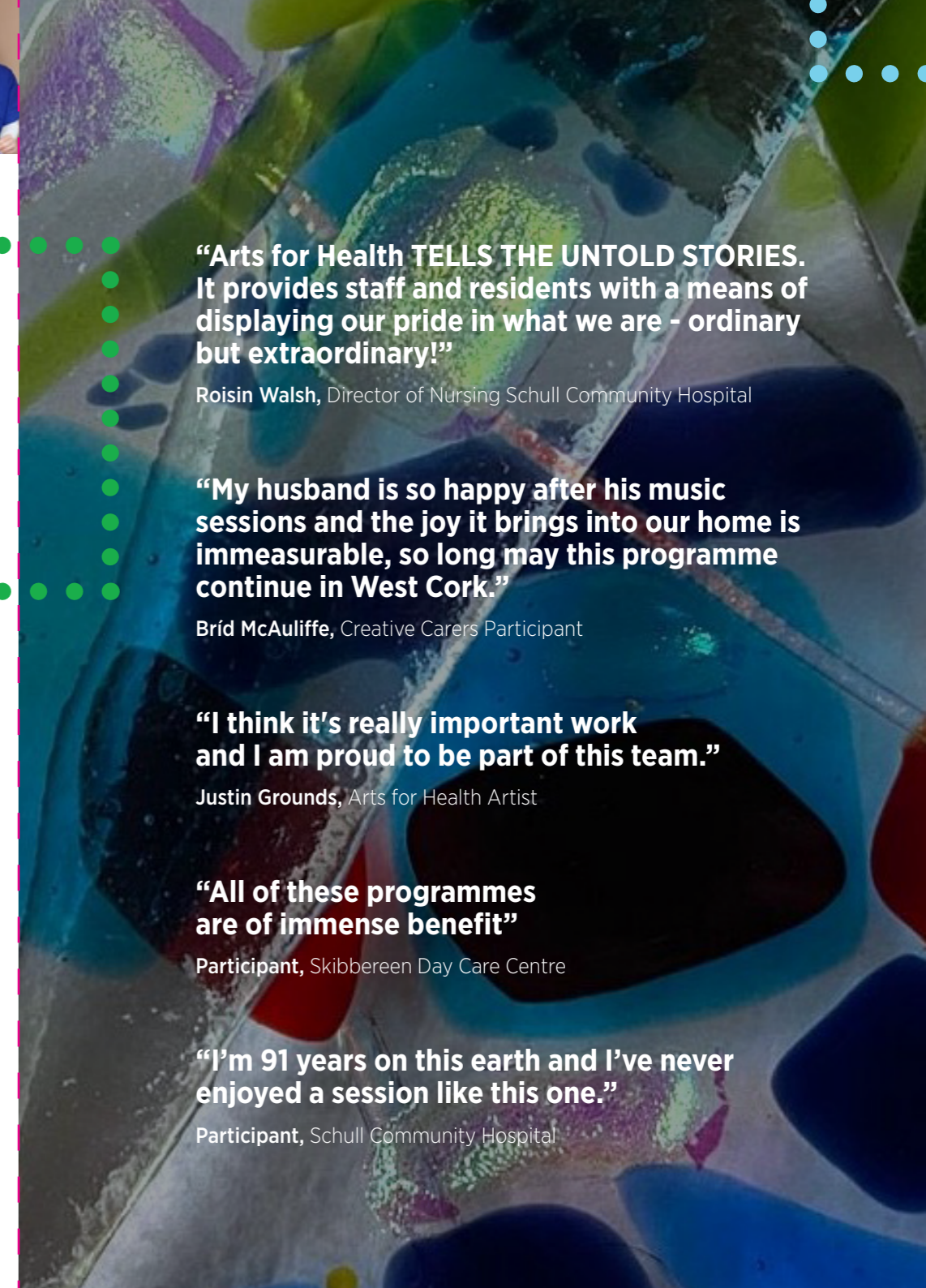
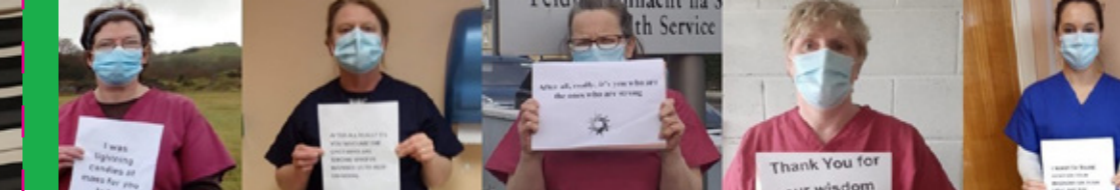


Image credits: Kevin O'Farrell and Arts for Health artists and staff



www.artsforhealthwestcork.com





Arts for Health, West Cork

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

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

Arts for Health Partnership

Arts for Health, West Cork is underpinned by an inter-agency partnership between Uillinn West Cork Arts Centre, Cork County Council, Cork Education & Training Board, and Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (HSE). The partnership is governed by a committed group of regional arts, education and health representatives working together, with Uillinn West Cork Arts Centre and the HSE playing the key operational roles.

Arts for Health Artists

The programme is delivered by a team of professional artists managed through Uillinn West Cork Arts Centre. The artists establish a close, professional working relationship with the staff, integrating the arts and care services. They are supported with training, peer networking and learning opportunities to develop their professional expertise in working with older people and in healthcare settings. Each with a distinctly different artistic practice, the artists work independently

and collaboratively resulting in a diverse range of artistic outcomes.

Arts for Health Participants

Participants are placed at the centre of the programme, their wellbeing and choice being paramount. In general, participants are older people, who reside in hospitals or attend day care facilities in West Cork. Participants might also be professional or family carers. Access to and engagement with the arts in healthcare settings improves the quality of life for individuals in residential care and service users. Integrating an arts programme into the culture of the care setting allows for ideas and individual creative interests of the participants to be nurtured and developed over time.

Arts for Health Programme

The programme is delivered in three strands: Community Hospital, Day Care and Creative Carers each tailored to the creative needs of participants in the context of their environment.

Community Hospital Arts Programme

focuses on consistency of delivery and choice and is structured around onsite, regular group

workshops and one-to-one bedside support to encourage and develop individual creative ideas. The content of the sessions evolves in response to conversations between artists, participants and staff.

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, responsive to the group.

Creative Carers Programme

looks towards the wellbeing of family carers and healthcare workers in a range of multidisciplinary engagements taking place: at home, at work and in community settings. The programme provides responsive approaches for Carers to access the arts as participants, audience and/or creative learners while allowing for social engagement, network building and peer support.

The programmes are all

enriched by the sharing of artwork through exhibitions, performance, publications,

creative community interventions and public and online events.

Fundamental to Arts for Health, West Cork is the arts centre based supporting framework of learning and development enabling artists to engage in peer network, mentorship, career clinics and studio residencies. To ensure an evolving and resilient practice, the programme leaders engage with national and international arts and health practice and development opportunities.

VISION

Integrating arts into the culture of care, making space for learning, being curious, imagining and creating together as we age.

MISSION

To deliver an exemplary model in a rural context of a managed and sustainable arts programme for older people accessing healthcare services.

VALUES

For the programme to be responsive, inclusive, forward thinking and creatively ambitious; delivered with integrity and care.



“Arts for Health TELLS THE UNTOLD STORIES. It provides staff and residents with a means of displaying our pride in what we are - ordinary but extraordinary!”

Roisin Walsh, Director of Nursing Schull Community Hospital

“My husband is so happy after his music sessions and the joy it brings into our home is immeasurable, so long may this programme continue in West Cork.”

Brid McAuliffe, Creative Carers Participant

“I think it’s really important work and I am proud to be part of this team.”

Justin Grounds, Arts for Health Artist

“All of these programmes are of immense benefit”

Participant, Skibbereen Day Care Centre

“I’m 91 years on this earth and I’ve never enjoyed a session like this one.”

Participant, Schull Community Hospital