



Information Sheet

Arts for Health and Well-being Projects

This fact sheet complements the general guidance available to potential grant applicants in our 'Getting started' document for Organisations, 'Strand' documents and our 'Essential Help Notes'.

Inspire... Our strategy for *Creativity and the Arts in Wales* sets down the Arts Council of Wales' ambition to "develop work that addresses well-being in health and community engagement, adding value to quality of life in Wales". We believe that sustainable communities are about everyone having equal access to participate in, and to attend, arts experiences. Our resources are limited. It is not possible, nor do we believe it's desirable, for the Arts Council of Wales to seek to fill gaps in provision where a service would more appropriately be provided by the health, social services or education sectors. We will be focusing our support on projects which are directed to improving health and well-being through the arts, with funding available of up to 50% of a project's total eligible cost.

We do not provide funding for:

- academic research projects
- Art Therapy projects
- creative professionals to carry out arts for health and well-being projects.

We do not insist on applications being submitted by arts organisations, but we do require all projects to involve a professional artist or arts organisation as part of a partnership approach. We expect the artistic quality of projects to be high in all cases and for evidence of this (for example Artist CVs) to be submitted with all applications. Public benefit is a cornerstone of Lottery funding and we expect this to be a very well-developed element of all applications, supported by evidence of need and demand.

Under our *Participation* strand for Organisations we are particularly interested in supporting arts for health and well-being projects that:

- promote well-being among all age groups through arts activities which espouse our *Make – Reach – Sustain* agenda by facilitating arts participation that may or may not involve presenting finished work to audiences
 - promote and strengthen partnership working between the arts sector and other relevant organisations in Wales (e.g. the health and social services sectors and the Third Sector)
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- increase arts opportunities for groups at risk of poor mental well-being, particularly among older people and people living in disadvantaged communities (e.g. Communities First areas).

Under our *Training & Professional Development* strands for Organisations and Creative Professionals we are particularly interested in supporting projects that:

- develop and improve knowledge and skills among people already working professionally in arts for health and well-being settings to enhance their development and delivery of arts for health and well-being projects.
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