

MEETING: 15/06/2017

Ref: 13889

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Older Londoners

Paintings in Hospitals

Adv: Geraldine Page

Base: Southwark

Amount requested: £59,500

**Benefit: Southwark, Croydon,
Lewisham, Bexley, Greenwich**

Amount recommended: £59,500

The Charity

Paintings in Hospitals (PiH) was founded in 1959 by Sheridan Russell, Almoner (a social worker in today's terms) at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. Sheridan had been exhibiting works by contemporary artists in waiting rooms, corridors and wards and began to understand the positive contribution that art could have on people's health and wellbeing. With the help of the Nuffield Foundation, he set out to create a unique art collection: one containing artworks chosen specifically to comfort and support patients and carers. Today PiH works across England, Wales and Northern Ireland and cares for a diverse collection of over 3,800 artworks. As well as four distinct artwork loan schemes, they also bring engagement activities, art projects and creative workshops to patients, service users and carers.

The Application

PiH requests funding for staff and project costs to run a 3 year art engagement project in 9 care homes across 5 London Boroughs. The project will involve 450 older residents (75+) of the care homes in the curatorial and selection processes for the PiH artworks to be displayed (loaned free of charge). This will be complemented by a series of art engagement activities and workshops, aimed at reducing levels of loneliness and depression for older residents; making the care homes more stimulating spaces whilst diversifying the existing activity programme to increase older residents' wellbeing. The activities will be delivered by volunteer facilitators recruited as part of the project.

The Recommendation

PiH has over 58 years' experience and is well placed and equipped to deliver this project. They aim to become the foremost national organisation using visual arts for health and wellbeing. This application is looking to enable older people in care to experience the therapeutic benefits of art to help reduce loneliness and increase wellbeing, and as such, aligns well with your Older Londoners Programme. A revised budget was submitted during assessment as it was noted by your officer that not all of project costs were included. A slightly revised budget has been provided in Appendix 1 to the application form to reflect the total project costs. Full funding is recommended as follows:

£59,500 over 3 years (£19,750; £20,000; £19,750) to contribute to the salary costs of the p/t London Regional Co-ordinator (3 d/p/w), and associated running costs for the project.

Funding History

None

Background and detail of proposal

In recent years, a growing number of patients, researchers, academics and policy makers have recognised that arts are important to better health and wellbeing. There is an increasing body of clinical evidence which has shown that art can: reduce levels of anxiety, stress and depression; reduce patients' length of stay in hospital; reduce their use of painkillers; and also increase staff morale.

The application builds on a successful pilot project displaying art work in a care home complimented with sketching workshops. This project will include a more tailored art engagement programme involving older people in the selection and display of the art works and activities such as sketching, interpretation and reminiscing. Participants will also have to opportunity to display their own art work created as part of the project. The workshops aim to achieve a greater sense of participation, gaining new skills and social interaction to help improve well-being and reduce loneliness.

PiH have provided a robust rational for the selection of priority borough's Southwark, Croydon, Lewisham, Bexley and Greenwich based on deprivation statistics affecting older Londoners, such as income deprivation, loneliness and social isolation. Additionally PiH want to expand in these areas as they already work in central, south west, and north west London. Care homes will be selected on greatest need across 3 criteria; number of residents over 75, inability to fund or deliver art activities and level of income deprivation and location within more disadvantaged wards within each priority borough.

Financial Information

PiH is located at and manages The Menier Gallery, near London Bridge and all money raised from the hire of the gallery supports the charity's work. This is a significant source of income along with recharged fees towards new loans of artworks, a number of unrestricted grants and donations and fundraising activities. Reserves are below Trustees policy target but remain relatively consistent at 3-4 months of operating expenditure.

Year end as at 31 December	2015 Audited Accounts £	2016 Draft Accounts £	2017 Forecast £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	512,515	414,760	445,950
- % of Income confirmed as at 15/05/2017	n/a	n/a	40%
Expenditure	(462,449)	(422,045)	(438,900)
Total surplus/(deficit)	50,066	(7,285)	7,050
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	10,000	(5,500)	(4,500)
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	40,066	(1,785)	11,550
	50,066	(7,285)	7,050
Cost of Raising Funds	83,573	57,786	58,900
- % of income	16.3%	13.9%	13.2%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	462,409	370,795	389,400
Free unrestricted reserves:			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	135,003	133,218	144,768
No of months of operating expenditure	3.5	4.3	4.5
Reserves policy target	200,000	200,000	200,000
No of months of operating expenditure	5.2	6.5	6.2
Free reserves over/(under) target	(64,997)	(66,782)	(55,232)