

January 22, 2018

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Heller An Shapiro
RE: Arts in Healthcare Program Discussion

Background:

You Are a Work of Art (YAWA): Created in 2013.

YAWA began by serving the nursing service personnel from the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center's (WRNMMC) 4th floor Wounded Warrior Unit and then expanded to address nursing service personnel throughout the hospital and outpatient clinics.

Program Goals: Arts workshops and pop-up arts activities give participants a feeling of creativity, resilience and community.

Number served in FY17: 1,700

Sample Activities: Nurses Week 2016 - seventy-two hospital and outpatient units received a wooden cigar box, bird whistle lollipops, cards (with a bird reminiscent of Tweet), and colored pencils to decorate the cards and write a good word for a colleague (the old-fashioned way).

Legacy Ledgers - a memory album in which the legacy of each staff member (and the entire team) of a unit or clinic is preserved for posterity at WRNMMC. Legacy Ledgers are proudly displayed for patients, staff, and families to view.

Recognition: You Are a Work of Art was featured in the 2017 white paper [*Arts, Health and Well-Being in America*](#) and presented at an Arts in Healthcare conference.

Allies in the Arts (Allies): Created in 2010.

Artists visit patient rooms on the WRNMMC's 4th floor Wounded Warrior Unit twice a week for about 2 hours, to offer arts activities to injured servicemembers and their families.

Program Goals: Aid injured servicemembers/veterans in their physical, mental, and emotional healing, recovery, and rehabilitation; and help family members, including children, process and validate their experiences and emotions while reinforcing their supportive role in the recovery process. Allies enriches the lives of participants through development of new creative skills, while helping them process their experiences and cope more effectively with stress.

Number served in FY17: 400 service members, 250 family members

Sample Activities: Individual sessions focus on music, visual arts, creative writing, and storytelling in multimedia. Singing/listening to music, playing musical instruments, listening to/writing poetry, decorating a totebag, making copper sheet plaques.

Recognition: Allies in the Arts was featured in the 2013 white paper *Arts, Health and Well-Being across the Military Continuum* and the July 2015 issue of *Arts & Health*.

NOTES:

Allies was serving as a training site for medical residents from Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) located on the Walter Reed campus. That is on hold since the supervisor was transferred.

WRNMMC staff recently requested that the Allies program expand to a weekly music session in the short-term Psychiatric unit. The cost, estimated at \$17,000/year, is not provided by WRNMMC. A grant for \$5,000 was submitted 11/17 for a pilot project.

Staffing: Both programs are staffed by three highly trained and experienced professional artists: a musician, a visual artist, and a specialist in applied drama, storytelling and puppetry. (An artist trained in poetry and creative writing left the metro area and has not been replaced.)

A fourth member of the team is an internationally-known arts in healthcare leader and visual artist. She developed the programs and training for the artists, and serves as program coordinator, evaluator, and grant writer. Her work on this project is provided as an in-kind donation.

Artists have completed general arts in healthcare coursework and hospital internships; American Red Cross orientation; training about military life, combat, common injuries of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the impact of these issues on service members, their families, and staff; particular considerations in planning and implementing arts experiences that address their needs; and certification in Mental Health First Aid to better prepare them to address the population's psychological issues.

Funding for YAWA and ALLIES combined:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Christopher and Dana Reeve		\$15,000			\$7,500	
DAV (available every other year)		\$18,000		\$15,000		\$15,000
Prince	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$15,000		\$20,000
REVENUE	\$25,000	\$58,000	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$7,500	\$35,000
EXPENSES	?	?	\$31,484	\$31,932	\$32,916	
NET:			-\$16,484	-\$1,932	-\$25,416	

Proposal:

As agreed in the 2017-2019 ArtStream Strategic Plan, the Board planned to discuss whether the Arts in Healthcare program should continue as an ArtStream program.

Options for discussion:

- A. Continue to support the program at the current level: assist with planning, manage purchases and payroll, assist with grant writing, promote on website and in written materials. Attend occasional events, e.g. National Nurses Week activity.
- B. Increase ArtStream's commitment and support for the program. This could involve more grant writing support, oversight, and underwriting expansion to the Psychiatric unit. Current funding and staffing are not adequate for this.
- C. Seek another nonprofit to take over the program. This could take 6-12 months.

Rationale:

This is a prestigious and unique program. The Director is well respected in the Arts and Healthcare field. Each of the teaching artists are leaders in their fields.

Evaluation is based on session notes, observation, and interviews.

Currently, the majority of veterans' programs and foundation funding is focused on the transition into the community. Most programs prefer to fund community-based interventions. Similar to ArtStream's pre-employment training, this is pre-community support.

ArtStream's flagship programs and growth opportunities are focused on using the performing arts to improve skills for the IDD community.

The January 2017 Strategic Planning Surveys asked Board members, Families, and Teaching Artists what ArtStream should keep doing. Arts in Healthcare was not mentioned.