TRUSTEES REPORT

Annual Report of Imagine Artsdem CIO Trading as The Studio

2023-24 was our first full year of operation as a charity, having converted from a CIC to a CIO in June, 2022. This has enabled us to continue to fulfil our purpose of enhancing the quality of life of persons with dementia while giving family carers support and information. We said goodbye to Yasmin Parratt and welcomed Deborah Kitson and Charlotte Atkinson as Trustees during this period.

We continued throughout 2023-24 to run 7 sessions per week: Carers’ Corner on Monday morning, staffed day care on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, Sporting Memories on Tuesday afternoon, Carers’ Support groups on Wednesday morning and afternoon, and Movement for Health and Wellbeing on Saturday morning. Attendance was steady, with 12-15 carers and former carers on Monday morning, 5 people on average on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, up to 8 couples at Sporting Memories, and 6-12 couples in total attending on Wednesdays. Numbers on Saturdays averaged about 5-6.

We increased the hourly rate of pay for Arts Care Assistants from £11ph to £12ph in January 2023.

A strong cohort of 9 volunteers now supports the Sporting Memories sessions. We have had good support from the local Rotary club in terms of their presence as volunteers. In fact one Rotary member has joined our staff of Arts Care Assistants, bringing their number to 4.

We held a successful Open Day in June, 2023, welcoming more than 60 people to a sponsored sing, led by our loyal volunteers Rosemary and Caroline.

With support from the UK Social Prosperity Fund, we organised 7 outings for people with dementia and their carers. These were widely advertised and attracted new participants to activities at The Studio. Participants included 135 people with dementia and carers (many came to several events), 24 volunteer 24 staff sessions. Days out proved very popular, highlighting the potential for future excursions if transport can be organised.

An important development in October 2023 was the employment of a part-time Admin Assistant. This was made possible by a grant from the County Council Local Improvement Scheme Revenue Fund. Her contract was extended for 6 months thanks to Chris Gray donating the sponsorship proceeds from running the New York Marathon in November, 2023.

Justine Schneider, Trustee, Imagine Artsdem Broxtowe CIO. July 31, 2024