

Funding Report: The Beer Harris Memorial Trust (/The Dominic Beer Memorial Trust)

August 2018

Paintings in Hospitals' art loans programmes continue to provide support to over two million people across the UK. We are working with more and more community healthcare sites, not just hospitals. Over the last few months, with your support, our Loans Coordinators have been able to continue and expand the reach of our activities in sites supporting service users with their mental health.

Progress update

This year we have been working with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in Leamington Spa to improve the environment in which they assess and treat young people. This has involved the loan of six artworks to the site, which will be on display throughout the communal spaces and consultation rooms until September 2019. These works, by a diverse range of artists, were selected for display via our co-curation method, which involved patients and staff discussing and exploring their artistic tastes and giving them an opportunity to take ownership of this space. Initial responses to the display from the service have been positive, and we are soon to conduct a further engagement activity to involve more service users with the display and the benefits of visual art.

We also have recently partnered with the City & Hackney Community & Outreach Centre in London, a site who approached us to ask for our help in transforming their therapeutic centre for people with a suspected or diagnosed personality disorder. We will be working to improve their currently rundown and somewhat bleak site with the introduction of inspiring artworks selected by service users. This site demonstrates to us the importance of working to support people with mental health issues, as are experiencing chronic conditions, and have been turned away from other care services, leaving them feeling further isolated and helpless. We know our interventions can help to relieve and reduce the negative impacts that can be generated in healthcare settings.



Images from a recent PiH artwork selection activity at a children's site in Wales. n.b. photography not yet available of sites above due to sensitive nature and service user consent issues).

The goal of ensuring everyone in the UK – regardless of age, ill health, disability, or location – can experience world-class visual arts and the therapeutic benefits it provides, is an ongoing process. We will continue to build and strengthen partnerships with mental health care sites: the most effective way we know how to increase our reach and impact. This work would not be possible without generous supporters like your Trust, and we want to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting out work making a real difference to people's wellbeing through the visual arts.