

Drama connecting people

Merja Mäkisalo-Ropponen, MP

Chair of the Alzheimer Society of Finland

National Memory Programme

The four main points of the Programme are:

1. Brain health can be maintained and improved, and dementia can be prevented in some cases.
2. People with memory disorders and dementia have equal rights in the society.
3. High-quality rehabilitative care can slow down the development of dementia.
4. Studies of high-quality care must be increased. The knowledge must be put into action.

Themes of the Alzheimer Society of Finland in 2013 and 2014

Culture and art belong to everybody.

- culture and art can be used as a part of rehabilitation
- person with memory disorders and dementia can enjoy and take part in cultural events
- culture and art are effective ways to express feelings even if you have no words left
- all people are creative even if you have memory disorders and dementia
- art - especially drama - is good method to teach nurses and nursing students how a patient with dementia perhaps feels and what is a good care and communication.

Culture building up memories - lively

**AGEING IS CONSIDERED TO BE A
FRIGHTENING BURDEN TO OUR
SOCIETY.**

WE SEE IT DIFFERENTLY.

**WE FACE THE JOY, CURIOSITY AND
THROW OURSELVES PLAYFULLY INTO TO
LIFE.**

**WE TAKE THE ART AND CULTURE
OUT THERE WHERE THE PEOPLE ARE.**

**WE BRING OUT SKILLS AND RECOURCES
OF THE ELDERLY PEOPLE.**

ALL PEOPLE ARE CREATIVE.

**EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO
EXPRESS THEMSELVES.**

HOW DO WE DO IT?

BY CHEATING

KATJA:

**OH, NO. WE ARE NOT NECESSARILY
MAKING ART HERE. (SMILING
MYSTERIOUSLY)**

BY KIDDING

KATJA:

**OH... THEY SAY THAT THIS IS THEATRE
BUT ACTUALLY THIS IS HAVING FUN.
(SMILING HAPPILY)**

BY OFFERING AHA! EXPERIENCES.

AATOS:

**HI! THIS COULD BE A GOOD
PERFORMANCE EVEN TO A LARGER
THEATRE. OR EVEN TO NURSING HOMES.**

AATOS AND KATJA:

OUR OWN TOUR!!!

AND HOW DID IT END?

**“LEUKOJEN LOKSUTTAJAT” ON TOUR
FROM THE BEGINNING OF FEBRUARY
2014.**