WHAT IT IS...

- Sustained, professionally taught classes for older adults typically incorporating social activities throughout and ending in a culminating event.
- Change of mindset from burden to asset.
RESEARCH

- Followed 300 adults over the age of 65 for two years
- Documented that participants who engaged in meaningful arts programs showed significant gains in health and quality of life.

- Similar studies showed significant benefits for those with dementia and Alzheimer’s.
PROGRAM EXAMPLES

1. TIMESLIPS – storytelling for older adults with dementia and Alzheimer’s
2. ENCORE – choral arts program – now 13 chorales across the country
3. ELDERS SHARE THE ARTS – theater program for older adults
4. KAIROS DANCE THEATRE – dance program for older adults
ENGAGE: State Communities of Practice Initiative in Arts, Health, and Aging

Aging Services

State Arts Agencies

Health Services

Artists & Arts Orgs

Increased capacity to serve older adults through arts and culture
YEAR ONE

- Arizona
- Florida
- Indiana
- Maine
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Montana
- New Jersey
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Texas

- Designated staff liaison
- National Leadership Conference (19-20 Aug 2013)
- Three quarterly conference calls
- One state-level activity

- Creative aging is an agency priority
- Connect with national and peer organizations
- Access large pool of resources (research, trainers, models, etc.)
- Professional development and learning opportunities
- Establish a creative aging support network