

dementalent

The Power of people with Dementia

Conference EAN Athens 26 and 27 September 2024

During this workshop we will outline the 'The Power of people with Dementia'. At its core, DemenTalent is about encouraging people with dementia to participate within society by working as a volunteer, in associations, schools, companies and social organizations. As the name suggests, our mission revolves around highlighting the talents of individuals with dementia. A key aspect of DemenTalent is identifying the skills that remain and pairing them with meaningful volunteer work.

Introduction and urgency of DemenTalent

DemenTalent was invented in 2012, when two people with dementia suggested to do volunteer work, instead of going to a daycare center for people with dementia. From there DemenTalent had 1000 participants in the last 10 years and gained an EFID ward. In 2023 the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport embraces the ambition of DemenTalent by supporting 50.000 participants towards 2030. DemenTalent is now part of the National Dementia strategy within the Netherlands. Our prediction is that 1 of 8 can participate as a volunteer. Especially for young people living with dementia (under the age of 65 years), DemenTalent offers an alternative way to spend their day with a purpose.

Method & Science behind DemenTalent

The method behind DemenTalent is based on the **Five Finger Model**. Suggesting that if you eat healthy, have physical exercise daily, maintain (new) social interactions, and keep your brains active by learning new things, you can prevent dementia and slowing down the course of the disease. Most important, people with dementia feel useful again, regain their purpose in life and don't have to depend on others all the time. The science behind DemenTalent, conducted by Prof. dr. Rose-Marie Droës in 2016-2019, shows that participants generally are more in balance and satisfied. They make less use of home care, have less behavior and mood symptoms and experience a higher wellbeing. Caregivers are less emotionally burdened and tend to be happier.

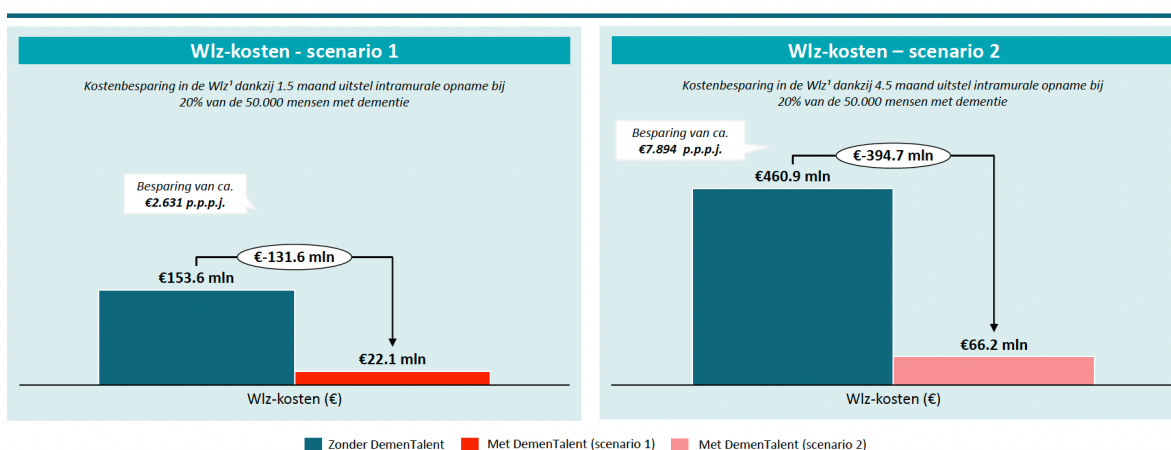


The outcomes of the Business case of DemenTalent, conducted in cooperation with Price Waterhouse and Cooper (PwC) & Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS), showed that DemenTalent is a cost-effective way of supporting people living with dementia.

How will 50.000 participants effect the health care system in the Netherlands?

It is expected that DemenTalent will lead to four types of potential effects:

1. Substitution and lower consumption of care at home, before postponement of intramural admission;
2. It is expected that people with dementia will make less frequent and intensive use of daytime activities and household help, community nursing and general practitioner care;
3. It is expected that DemenTalent will postpone admission to the nursing home for approximately 1.5-4.5 months for 20% of the participants;
4. Social impact by reducing dropout and overload of informal caregivers.



- DemenTalent may lead to a 1.5-4.5-month delay in admission - this means a decrease in Long Term Care costs of **€131.6 (scenario 1) - 394.7 million (scenario 2) per year.**
- DemenTalent seems to be **46% more cost-effective** in comparison to indicated day care for people with dementia.
- It is expected that DemenTalent will reduce the costs associated with the number of work fallout and overload of informal caregivers with approximately **decrease €4.7 (scenario 1) - 9.6 million (scenario 2) per year.**

More information and contact with the Foundation

Deanie van Tuijl is a healthcare entrepreneur within the field of elderly long care in the Netherlands. As Director of the foundation DemenTalent and with help of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports, she puts DemenTalent on the map with the aim 50.000 participant (people with dementia) active again by the year 2030 within the Netherlands. A national volunteer platform will be launched combined with an 'out of the box' communication campaign at the beginning of November 2024. With the aim to change the way we think and interact with people with dementia in our society.



Visit our website: www.dementalent.nl

Let's keep in contact: deanie@dementalent.nl

Kind Regards,

Deanie van Tuijl - Director DemenTalent Foundation

“They can still learn something from me”

Lammert Krol, 80 years DemenTalent participant

