# How to transform healthcare systems to promote healthy aging

The Best Frailty Care (TOM) program



DANONE ·CCOSYSTEM

## An aging population in the Netherlands

In the Netherlands, around 20% of the population is aged 65 or over



## Aging comes with emotional, social and physical challenges with **fall** being one of the tipping points

### In the Netherlands...



- 1/2 of 65+ fall once a year
- Falling is the **#1** cause of non-disease related death and injuries
- Falling can lead to a vicious circle
- Healthcare spending due to falls exceeded €1b in 2019

Today, our healthcare system and broader societies need to further focus on habits at home to prevent falls and promote healthy living.



That's why a **coalition** of public and private partners decided to join forces to **address those challenges** 

The Best Frailty Care (TOM) program was born

## How it works



### Seniors join Best Frailty Care (TOM),

a 4-month program including



Nutrition Knowledge sharing about healthy eating and drinking, with help from dietitians



**Community** Group based activities





Exercise Customized and supervised by physiotherapists

## Thanks to the program, seniors adopt new healthy habits leading to

#### **Better quality of life**

1/2 participants felt healthier at the end of the program

### **Better dietary habits**

6/10 participants paid more attention to their diet

Better mobilty 9/10 participants gained strength

## Leading to a positive impact on the whole ecosystem

6 months after the program, total falls were divided by half





The net costs of the program for keeping a participant in optimum health for one year of life is  $\bigcirc$  17.000, **substantially lower** than the standard cost of  $\bigcirc$  50.000 for society

+800 Healthcare professionals trained to implement the program





The program has positively impacted **+8000** seniors but also helped healthcare professionals and healthcare system stakeholders understand the **importance of fall prevention for seniors** 

## This is just the **beginning**...

The **coalition** is now **expanding to a** national level



## Testimony



"My name is Ans. I'm 91 years old. I read an article about the Best Frailty Care (TOM) program in a local newspaper. I quickly registered to it, and I was happy to join. The group of seniors I joined was very nice to each other. Thanks to the program I learned how to better keep my balance and I also changed a few things in my diet. Among other things, I am making sure I eat enough protein a day. The program was a lot of fun! It made me a little bit more confident and I'm still reaping the benefits. I am happy to be independent."

Ans Shrover, 91 years old

## Partners & roles



Training of involved professionals

Not for profit national Health Insurance Company, healthcare

Drive initiation network of the

**DANONE ECOSYSTEM FUND** 

Brings co-creation spirit to the

Consultancy for social innovation

potential partners Knowledge on

**VEILIGHEID NL** 

Fall prevention

plan specialist Project co-funding

Project co-funding

Strategic support

Project co-funding

nutrition

coalition

PURPOSE

Project Management Impact evaluation



Physiotherapists Dieticians Volunteers



#### PUBLAB Study of socio-cultural determinants of eating behaviour

#### WAGENINGEN UNIVERISTY Dietary assessment

7 LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES (E.g. ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM) Ensure local implementation

#### **GRO-UP BUURTWERK** Rotterdam Welfare

#### Sources:

- World Health Organization (2021). Step safely: strategies for preventing and managing falls across the life-course, [online] https://www.who.int/teams/social-determinants-of-health/safety-and-mobility/ step-safely.
- VeiligheidNL (2019). Key figures for accidental falls among the over 65 in 2019, [online] https://www. zorgvoorbeter.nl/valpreventie-ouderen/cijfers.
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. World Population Ageing 2020 Highlights: Living arrangements of older persons, [online] https://www.un.org/development/desa/ pd/news/world-population-ageing-2020-highlights.
- Bukman AJ, Ronteltap A, Lebrun M. (2020) Interpersonal determinants of eating behaviours in Dutch older adults living independently: a qualitative study. BMC Nutrition ;6:55.
- Toet H, Blatter B, Panneman M, Wijnstok N, Sprik E. (2019) Injury Information System Methods and applications. VeiligheidNL (https://www.veiligheid.nl/).
- Frazer SWT, van der Veen R, Baan A, Hermans MEW, Olij BF. (2021) Evaluation of Implementing TOM: A Group-Based Fall Prevention Programme among Community-Dwelling Older Adults in The Netherlands. 2021;18:6360.

