

Porchlight, Inc.

306 N. Brooks Street  
Madison, WI 53715

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Winter 2019

Dave Roatch

In October 2016, Dave was renting a room at a small farm outside of Portage, WI. Dave had to leave his previous job, due to health issues, because he could no longer keep up with the required pace. Dave struggled with losing his job since he'd always been able to support himself.

Dave decided to go through Porchlight's Veterans Transitional Housing program. Important components of this program are helping vets transition into permanent housing elsewhere in the community and maintaining employment. Thankfully, Porchlight Products was able to

give Dave a steady income with a flexible schedule that other job opportunities did not offer.

His co-workers describe him as laid back and as having a great sense of humor. Dave likes that Porchlight Products is able to give him some "light-duty" tasks that aren't so taxing on his physical health since he is easily winded.

In June 2018, staff helped Dave find permanent subsidized housing through the VA. Dave enjoys his new apartment because the location offers many bus options.

Dave now does bookkeeping and is excited to learn new tasks. When asked about how Porchlight has impacted him, he shared this...

Solutions to Homelessness



Porchlight Products has changed my life. It offers me the flexibility I need and accommodates my physical health needs. It gets me out of my apartment each day and gives me purpose -Dave

Porchlight's 2019 Winter Newsletter

Solutions to Homelessness



# Porchlight, Inc.

## Blue Plate Catering

After being voted 'Best of Madison' for 11 years straight, Blue Plate Catering will be joining the 2019 Chef's Tasting featuring Porchlight Products.

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## Wisconsin Union

At the beginning of 2018, Porchlight started a new partnership with The Wisconsin Union. After a year of collaboration, check out what we have accomplished together.

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## Forward at Breeze Stevens

The Forward Madison Futbol Club is gearing up for their inaugural season at Breeze Stevens Field and is growing in members and community action.

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## Save the Date!

Annual Recognition Dinner  
November 12, 2019  
Monona Terrace

Drop-In Shelter Volunteer Brunch  
April 13th at 9:30am  
Grace Episcopal Guild Hall

Questions? Email Jessica at [jmathis@porchlightinc.org](mailto:jmathis@porchlightinc.org) or call at (608) 257-2534 ext. 20

**Sponsors:**

BMO Harris Bank, UW Health, Quartz, Blue BROWN, summit, Findorff, CUNA MUTUAL GROUP, FOODFIGHT! RESTAURANT GROUP, OLD NATIONAL BANK, Steenbock's on ORCHARD.

**Location:**  
Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery  
330 N. Orchard Street, Madison

**Tickets:**  
\$50/guest or \$450/table of 10

**Purchase tickets online at**  
<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/CT2019>

**2019 Chef's Tasting**  
TUESDAY February 19, 2019  
5:30-8:30pm



## Our Friends, The Wisconsin Union

In early 2018, Porchlight Board Member, Ron Luskin, approached the University of Wisconsin-Madison's student union and Wisconsin Union (WU) with a proposed partnership that was both innovative and multi-faceted in its approach. This proposal stems from the desire of the Wisconsin Union Directorate to focus on their social justice mission. This partnership includes three main components: our Porchlight Products program, a student internship, and employment opportunities.



### Porchlight Products

This partnership brought some exciting new opportunities for our job skills training program, Porchlight Products. For example, our locally-sourced sauerkraut from Porchlight Products was served at all brat stands in the Memorial Union Terrace. From May through August, we delivered approximately 50 pounds of sauerkraut each week, totaling over 838 pounds. Each batch of sauerkraut takes three weeks to ferment, so the Porchlight Products team was already hard at work by the end of March to ensure that plenty of product was ready for the hungry patrons when the weather got warm and the Terrace opened back up.

### Internship

Additionally, this partnership allowed for a paid internship opportunity. It gives a University of Wisconsin-Madison student hands-on experience in the non-profit sector, while expanding their knowledge base for how this type of agency operates. We currently have our second intern who will be with us for the full

### Employment

The final facet of our partnership with the Wisconsin Union includes the employment opportunities that were created for residents of Porchlight. Through the help of an agency called Employment Resources, Inc., a handful of Porchlight residents, many of whom have disabilities or disrupted work



If you enjoyed sauerkraut on a brat or burger this year while at the Memorial Terrace, you were tasting Porchlight Products sauerkraut

academic year, working ten hours per week. She works closely with Jessica Mathis, Porchlight's Director of Development, on all things related to marketing and event planning. This internship has helped to bridge the communication gap between the Madison community, represented by Porchlight, and the UW-Madison campus.

**WILLIS L. JONES**  
**LEADERSHIP CENTER**  
**at the Wisconsin Union**

histories, now have positions with both Memorial Union and Union South. Thus far, six of our residents have gone to work in food service and custodial duties. They have received varying levels of support – ranging from support around the interview process to on-the-job training. The Wisconsin Union staff has done an incredible job of accommodating the individual needs of each of our residents in the hopes that they will be able to maintain their employment!

## Blue Plate Catering

Blue Plate Catering, the well-known winner of the Best of Madison – Catering for the past 13 years, is dedicated to supporting the economic and environmental well-being of our community. Their chefs focus on unique offerings and homemade standards in order to provide the most delicious dishes they can dream up. From time-to-time, you can spot various Porchlight Products as a featured ingredient in one of the five different cafes operated by Blue Plate Catering. In 2018, they graciously decided to begin donating their



leftover food to residents of Porchlight housing.

For the second year in a row, Blue Plate Catering has agreed to participate in Porchlight's Chef Tasting. This year, the event will take place on Feb 19, 2019 at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery. This event is

the only fundraiser for the Porchlight Products program, a job and skills training program for individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities. The event hosts ten of Madison's best chefs that have prepared a one-of-a-kind appetizer for that night using at least one Porchlight Product as an ingredient. Along with the memorable food, there is a live auction featuring packages, created by the chefs, that involve unique food experiences.



Last year, Blue Plate Catering presented Apple Butter seared duck on a purple potato chip with strawberry rhubarb jam, as well as two catered parties for lucky winners of the auction!

## Requested Necessities

Donations such as cleaning supplies are an important way in which we assist Porchlight residents. We provide cleaning supplies to residents so they can focus on maintaining stability.

- Brooms & dust pans
- Mops & buckets
- Laundry baskets
- Washcloths & sponges
- Paper towel
- Toilet paper
- Dish & laundry soap
- Floor cleaner
- Multi-purpose spray & wipes
- Ground coffee
- Bags of sugar
- Cereal

Donations can be taken to 306 N. Brooks St. Madison, M-F from 8:30-4:30

## Forward!

Forward Madison FC is the new professional soccer club to "be built for, by and of the people of Wisconsin's capital city," stated Managing Director, Peter Wilt.

The team joined USL League One and was officially launched in May 2018. During its inaugural season, beginning in the spring of 2019, Porchlight has been chosen as one of its first nonprofit partners.



Forward is committed to creating strong and beneficial partnerships with local non-profit organizations.

Donation bins to collect cleaning supplies for individuals served by Porchlight will be located at Breese Stevens Field. Plus, announcements about Porchlight will be made over the public address system during the games.

Games will be played at the renovated Breese Stevens' Field on Madison's eastside. There are great expectations for Madison Forward's reception in the marketplace. With over 55 businesses already championing the new league as sponsors, Porchlight can't wait to see the ways this new venture will continue to improve and enhance this great city!