INTRODUCING THE PORCH LIGHT PROGRAM

Does art have the power to heal? Mural Arts Philadelphia's Porch Light Program thinks it does. The Porch Light Program, a collaboration between Mural Arts Philadelphia and the city’s Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services, works closely with communities to uplift public art as both an expression of community resilience and a vehicle of personal and community healing. We create murals that focus on issues that affect our mental health and wellness, including faith and spirituality, housing insecurity, trauma, immigration, war, community safety and tensions, and substance use.

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE PROVIDER SITE PROGRAM?

The Porch Light provider site initiative builds a team of artists, behavioral health (mental health/substance use) providers, program participants, community members, and city-wide stakeholders to collaborate on a transformative public art project. The program strives to catalyze positive changes in the community, improve the physical environment, create opportunities for connecting, develop skills to enhance resilience and recovery, promote community and social inclusion, increase access to services, shed light on challenges faced by those with behavioral health issues, reduce stigma and encourage empathy.

WHOM DO WE ENGAGE?

Each Porch Light provider site is different. At every site, we strive to consistently engage approximately 15-20 individuals in weekly art workshops and a final public art piece. It is also a priority of the Porch Light Program to engage the surrounding community as a whole through paint days, health forums, and community meetings.

WHAT IS THE PORCH LIGHT PROGRAM TIMELINE?

Each Porch Light Partnership lasts for two years. Weekly programming occur for the first 6 months. Open studios are held as needed during the design and painting process. Public art installation and mural dedication is conducted in the summer and fall months. Community paint days and design discussions are held throughout the project. Unforeseen circumstances may impact the timeline at each partner site.

HOW DOES MY ORGANIZATION BECOME A PORCH LIGHT PARTNER?

We invite organizations addressing behavioral health needs to read through the Porch Light Program goals, roles, and responsibilities to determine whether this program could be a good fit for your organization. Then, please complete the accompanying application by March 3, 2023. Finalists will be chosen by March 10, 2023. Please note: Each year we are only able to accept 1 - 2 new Porch Light Partners into the program.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"In Mural Arts we have everyone coming together to help each other. Other people help me and I try to help others here, and to send a message that we can get everything together and make this a better city. At least we can try.”
- Porch Light Participant

"The Mural Arts Program has given our clients a sense of belonging, that they are a part of the community and are connected to it.”
- Porch Light Partner Staff

PORCH LIGHT TEAM

Porch Light Project Manager: Paige Phillips paige.phillips@muralarts.org
Porch Light Director: Nadia Malik nadia.malik@muralarts.org

RECENT PARTNERS

RHD Morris Home, Einstein LTSR, Kirkbride Center, Girard Medical Center, Broad Street Ministry, Children's Crisis Treatment Center

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application Due: March 3, 2023
Finalists Notified: March 10, 2023
Finalists’ Site Visits/ Interviews: March 13 - March 17, 2023
Final Selection: March 21, 2023

More information: dbhids.org or porchlightvirtualtour.org
MURAL ARTS PROGRAM (MAP) PROVIDES

Program Management:
Mural Arts will also manage the project budget, timeline, tracking and documentation. Mural Arts is responsible for ordering all art supplies for the weekly workshops and public art pieces. Lastly, Mural Arts will create, provide, and/or disseminate any necessary information about the Porch Light Program at events, forums, or media opportunities.

Art Workshops and Community Engagement Opportunities:
Mural Arts will provide and manage weekly workshops for service recipients as well as public community events in the form of design conversations, open studios, and paint days.

Artists:
1) Lead Artist - The lead artist will provide vision and production plan for public art; lead the production of the public art; create meaningful curriculum leading to the creation of the mural; maintain close communication with Mural Arts about needed materials, supplies, curriculum, and timeline for mural; attend Mural Arts and community design reviews, community events, and community forums.
2) Assistant Artists - The Assistant Artists will assist the Lead Artist during public art production and installation. All assistant artists will managed by Mural Arts including contracts, hours, payment, and training.

When scheduling and field placement student hours permit, the Porch Light Program will provide a masters level social work student at the workshops to assist the artist.

PORCH LIGHT PARTNER SITE PROVIDES

Recruitment and Outreach:
The Porch Light Partner Site identifies, recruits, and retains up to 15-20 service recipients to participate in the program once a week. Partner sites also engage the broader community and assists in recruiting additional community organizations to public events through regular announcements. Mural Arts will provide additional publicity material to assist in the recruitment process.

Staff: The Porch Light Program identifies at least two people to provide support to this partnership
1) Partnership Coordinator - Understands how the Porch Light Program fits within the overall goals of the agency and how to communicate that effectively to staff; communicates program goals and activities to staff, service recipients, and community as needed; communicates with Mural Arts to ensure proper documentation of program attendance, retention, and involvement in program activities; assists in the planning for community events.
2) Project Coordinator - Remains in close communication with workshop coordinator to ensure proper documentation of workshops and to learn about any client-related issues; provides crisis management as needed; assists in the planning for community events; serves as conduit of information to Partnership Coordinator about any client issues that present themselves in the workshop; maintains contact with Mural Arts staff about program administration and project updates.

Physical Space:
The Porch Light Partner Site provides a dedicated space for weekly workshops available throughout the duration of the program and includes tables, chairs, proper ventilation, and access to a sink for appropriate art materials.

Walls for Two Murals:
The Porch Light Partner Site has in mind potential walls for murals, and will use their connections with the broader community and partner organizations to receive authorization for public artworks.
Site Name:  

Site Street Address and Zip Code:  

Hours of Operation:  

Primary Contact Name:  

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<th>Phone:</th>
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Will Porch Light Weekly Programming occur at the address above?  
Yes ☐ No ☐  
If no, please provide address:  

Preferred days of programming (check all that apply)  
- Mon ☐ Tues ☐ Wed ☐ Thurs ☐ Fri ☐  

Preferred times of programming (check all that apply)  
- Mornings ☐ Afternoons ☐ Evening ☐  

Anticipated program participant age range  
- 12-21 ☐ 22-42 ☐ 42-62 ☐ 62-82 ☐  

Does your site currently offer any of the following?  
- Group Therapy ☐  
- Alternative therapeutic activities ☐  
- Methadone Maintenance ☐  
- Intensive Outpatient Services ☐  

Is your agency located near a commercial corridor?  
Yes ☐ No ☐  

Is your agency located in an economically disadvantaged community?  
Yes ☐ No ☐  

How many regular programs does your agency offer?  

NARRATIVE: Respond to each of the questions below on a separate sheet of paper. Please type and label your responses. Your responses should total no more than 5 pages.  

1) Provide a description or overview of your agency and mission, the behavioral health activities it currently provides, and communities it serves.  
2) How does your agency’s mission and culture align with a vision for participatory public art engagement that includes clients and the broader community?  
3) Provide bios for the site staff who will serve as Partnership and Program Coordinators for the program.  
4) Explain why your organization/agency would like to be a Mural Arts Porch Light Program Partner Site.  
5) Describe your site’s proposed strategy for recruiting and retaining service recipients for this program.  
6) Does your organization have suggested walls for murals? If not, describe your strategy for relationships or any community partners they may help find us a wall for these murals.  

LETTERS OF SUPPORT: Please attach TWO letters of support from community partners who are interested in participating in the public Porch Light activities, including paint days, design discussions, and open studios. Each letter of support must be typed or printed legibly with the individual’s/group’s full contact information and must be no longer than one page.  

HOW TO APPLY:  
Complete and return the attached application. All applications must be received by Feb. 24, 2023. Incomplete or late applications will not be reviewed, but we are happy to help you with any questions as you work on the application. Please direct all inquiries to Paige Phillips, Porch Light Project Manager, at paige.phillips@muralarts.org or 215-495-7256. Submit completed applications to: paige.phillips@muralarts.org  

Application Check List  
- Basic Information ☐  
- Narrative Response ☐  
- Letters of Support ☐