



 **Portal, inc.**
WORKING...For A Better Community

A Portal to the Community for Fifty Years

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Board of Directors

Kurt Baehmann, John Biever,
Ray Cary, Edward Eckhardt,
Debbie Fedel, Pam King,
Sharon Streff and Chuck Zamora



Memo from the Executive Director

What We Do

Dear Friends of Portal, inc,

In 2015, Portal celebrated 50 years of continuous operation providing supports and services to people with (dis)abilities, their families and the greater community. While we are proud of our accomplishments, we are amazed and humbled by the determination of the very people we serve.

Portal's success can be directly attributed to the creativity, hard work and flexibility of our dedicated staff, the support of family members, the time and talents of willing volunteers, the gifts from generous donors, and partnerships with valued businesses and organizations. Thank you for your involvement in helping us make an impact. Because of your giving spirit, we continue to enhance the lives of more than 200 individuals.

As we reflect on our 50th anniversary year, we need to be ever mindful of the challenges ahead – decreasing funding, legislative changes in both services and employment law, national workforce shortages (for direct support professionals), and increasing donor and service competition. It is through your generosity and partnership that the foundation for our continued success is built.

We are 50 years grateful, and we look forward to delivering quality services and supports that will make you proud for years to come.

With gratitude,

Carole Stuebe

*Executive Director
Portal, inc.*

2

Portal, inc. was founded by a small group of parents and concerned citizens on March 10, 1965. Their mission was to create a special place where young adults with disabilities could learn the life and work skills they needed for greater independence.

They created that place in the basement of an old schoolhouse in Knellsville, which has a pair of distinctive arched portals for entryways. A contest was held to name the new organization, which initially served just ten participants. "Portal," submitted by parent and advocate Carol Renzel, was the winning entry.

50 years and hundreds of participants later, the building has changed, but the name Portal is more relevant than ever. While originally the organization focused on vocational training on-site, today it's a "portal to the community" with the majority of our efforts happening beyond the walls of our building. Our goal is to connect our participants to their broader community through employment, social and life skills learning, recreation and service.

••• Employment Services & Supports

We find good jobs paying competitive wages for our participants who want to work. We match each individual's skills, gifts and interests with the needs of more than 100 community employers in Ozaukee County and surrounding areas. In 2015, 113 of our participants held jobs in the community, at restaurants, retail stores, hospitals, hotels, high schools and colleges, and even a local police department.

••• Community & Adult Day Services

We believe that meaningful days make meaningful lives, even for people who require a higher level of care and/or support. So



Why We Do It

we assist adults develop personal and life skills through a variety of daily activities, community experiences, social opportunities and exercise. A total of 51 participants benefitted from this program in 2015.

••• Community Recreation and Social Experiences

We offer a monthly calendar of evening and weekend activities for our participants. This allows them to pursue current interests and explore new ones with their friends, while developing their skills in social interaction, money management and personal decision making. Some 126 participants took advantage of our 2015 calendar of opportunities.

Portal, inc. is a nonprofit community-based organization serving and supporting individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD). We believe every person has abilities. Therefore we help our participants channel their skills, gifts and interests in order to find the meaning and purpose in their lives. We provide portals for them to enter fully into their community as productive workers and respected citizens.

By all indications, it's working. Participants reported that they were 100% satisfied with the services they received in 2015 – an outstanding statistic by any measure – within all of the following outcome areas: they were treated with dignity and respect, they felt comfortable and safe in our programs, and they would recommend Portal, inc. Additionally, 100% of our participants were actively involved with their community throughout the day.

In 2015, 95% of the participants in our employment program were satisfied with their jobs in the community, and 70% of them earned above minimum wage. In addition, 95% of our day program participants volunteered for local nonprofit organizations and spent, on average, 64% of their time involved in community activities. The benefits are endless – not only for our participants, but for the larger community itself.





Financials

SOURCES OF FUNDS

Program Services	79%	1,821,463.00
Contributions and Fundraising	8%	177,686.00
Other	13%	288,911.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100%	2,288,060.00

EXPENSES

Program and Services	90%	2,116,611.00
General and Administrative	7%	156,387.00
Fundraising and Development	3%	63,626.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100%	2,336,624.00
		-48,564.00

Who Does It

Portal, inc. employed 53 dedicated staff members in 2015, and was managed by a committed Board of Directors. However, we couldn't have done it without the help and support of our participants' family members, hundreds of generous donors, businesses and organizations, and more than 270 bighearted volunteers who gave over 1,900 hours of their valuable time.

While our primary source of funding is Medicaid, through the Wisconsin Family Care Program, government funds only cover 74% of our costs. We have other revenue sources that bring us up to 85%, but we need to raise an additional 15% each year just to meet our operational expenses. Before we can even think about paying for new programs or additional resources, we need to raise enough money just to keep the lights on. Needless to say, we are deeply grateful to our donors.

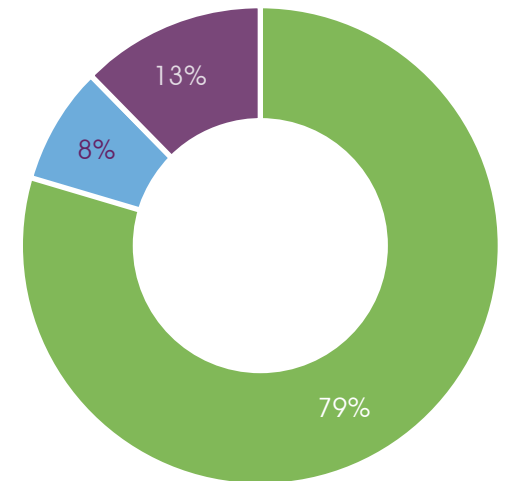
Help us continue our 50-year mission of providing portals to the community for people with disabilities. Your financial gifts, as well as your gifts of time, talents and resources, are most welcome. Just use the enclosed donation envelope to help us get started on our next 50 years, and please consider adding Portal, inc. as a beneficiary in your will.

Portal, inc. is a nonprofit organization, exempt from taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and contributions are deductible to the extent allowed by law. Before considering any major gift to Portal, inc., please consult with your attorney or financial advisor.

Portal, inc. is committed to the principles and philosophy of Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action.

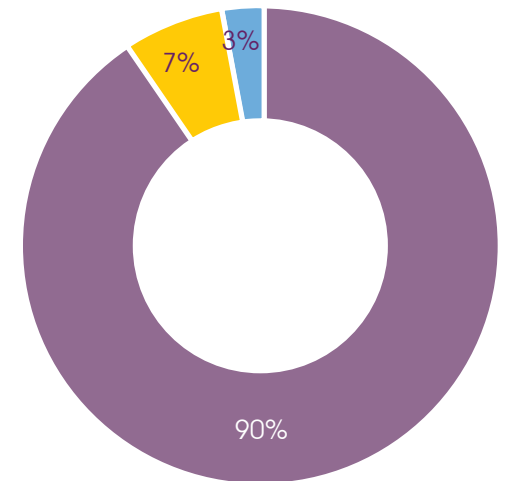
Revenues

- Program Services
- Contributions and Fundraising
- Other



Expenses

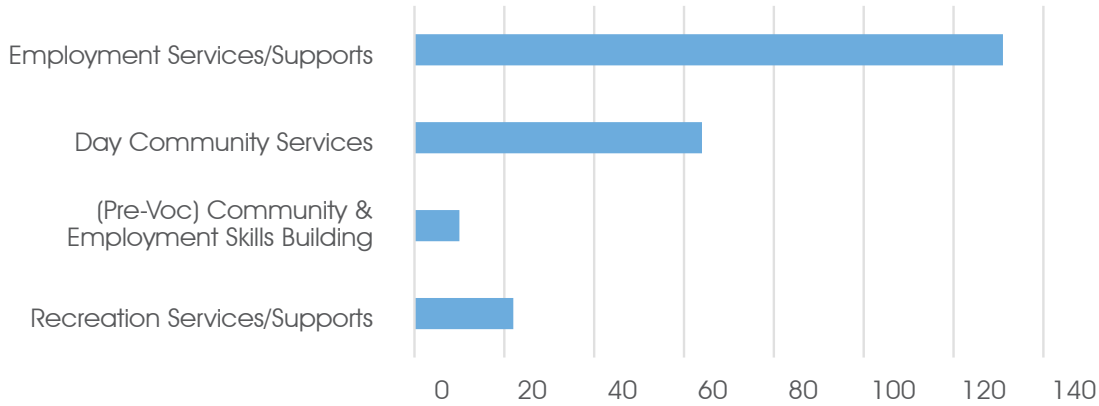
- Program and Services
- General and Administrative
- Fundraising and Development



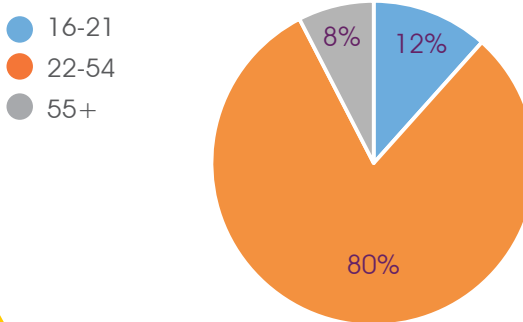
2015 Audit
performed by
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Participant Statistics

Participation by Program
Total Unduplicated Number Served: 227

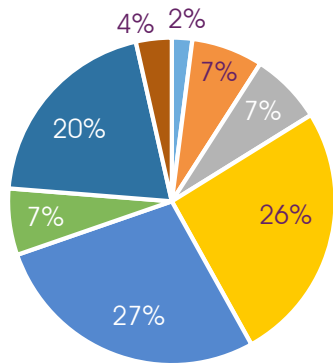


Age of Population Served
80% are "working age"



Home Residence

- Belgium - 53004
- Cedarburg - 53012
- Fredonia - 53021
- Grafton - 53024
- Port Washington - 53074
- Saukville - 53080
- Mequon/Thiensville 53092/97
- Other



Portals to the Community in 2015

••• 30 Years of Running with Fish

Not only did 2015 mark the 50th anniversary of Portal, inc., it was also the 30th anniversary of the Port Washington Fish Day Run/Walk – Portal, inc.'s largest annual fundraiser. This year, more than 1,000 individuals participated, either running an 8K route, or running or walking a fun two-mile route.

We commemorated the occasion by commissioning a special wall quilt featuring each of the 28 annual t-shirts that we've given to run/walk participants. (The first two years, participants received a sport towel.) The front of each t-shirt boasts a theme-based design created by an area high school student. Anne Books of Mequon generously donated her time and talent to construct the beautiful quilt, which now graces a wall within the Portal, inc. building.

••• Soaring with an Eagle

In order to become an Eagle, a Boy Scout must first perform a project of community service that gives him an opportunity to "plan, develop, and give leadership to others," according to the BSA's Eagle Scout Service Project requirements. So when Seth Lajoice offered to repair the shed on the south side of the Portal, inc. building for his Eagle project this year, we couldn't have been happier.

However, once the shed was empty, Seth discovered that it would have to be completely rebuilt. The wood floor needed to be replaced, and the walls had shifted and were no longer level. Fortunately, Seth soared on like an Eagle. We watched in amazement as he was busy every weekend. Exactly 50 days after the original shed was emptied, the last nail was pounded and our new shed was complete.

Thank you, Seth, for generously donating your time, talent and persistence. Congratulations on earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

••• A Round of Applause for Art

Creating art can be a rewarding and therapeutic experience for anyone, which is why we began the Art Applause program in 2007. Initially, the art we made was collaborative, with everyone working together to create a piece. But the program has evolved over the years. Now an individual artist can make his or her own design decisions, and thus express his or her singular perspective on the world.

Portal, inc. artists work in a variety of media, including paint, photography, fiber, fabric, glass and mixed media. We exhibited our works at an assortment of venues in 2015, including the Blue Heron Artisans Marketplace in Port Washington and the North Shore Bank in Grafton. Our art is proudly displayed in private, public and corporate collections.



1015 Cedar Creek Road • P.O. Box 65
Grafton, WI 53024-0065
(262) 377-4410 • www.portalinc.org

