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Contact: Tracy Jane Comer
PO Box 930446
Verona, WI 53593
Phone: 608-215-1183
Email: info@commonchord.us
Web: www.commonchord.us
Facebook: @commonchordmusic

Hi-res photos of participant group, Common Chord: See <https://www.commonchord.us/gallery.php>

Folk/Americana group Common Chord to present holiday show benefitting Porchlight, Inc. on Dec. 2

[Madison, Wisconsin— November 7, 2021] Start your holidays on a high note. Sing along with some holiday classics and hear some brand-new holiday music as the Brink Lounge presents Common Chord in a benefit concert for Porchlight, Inc. Grab your favorite beverage, make out your Christmas list and listen to music by Gershwin, The Traveling Wilburys, Paul Simon, Tom Waits, Lennon and McCartney, and more. Plus, you'll be supporting a wonderful community charity, Porchlight. The concert starts at 7 pm on December 2, 2021, at The Brink Lounge in Madison, WI. The show is open to the public and admission is simply a donation, of any amount, to Porchlight, Inc., or you can make an in-kind donation of any of the items listed on the organization's needs-list. For full details see:

<https://www.commonchord.us/2021holidayshow.htm>

The beneficiary organization, Porchlight, Inc., is the largest non-profit provider of affordable housing in Madison, with 350 units across 26 sites, ranging from single room occupancy (SRO) units to family units with 1-4 bedrooms. Porchlight also has housing programs that specialize in working specifically with Veterans and individuals with mental illness. A variety of supportive services including case management is offered to residents to ensure that they receive the level of support they need to remain stably housed.

Jessica Mathis, Director of Development for Porchlight, Inc., says: *"We encourage all who are able to attend this event in support of Porchlight's mission. This winter, Porchlight expects to serve at least 150 men each night by providing them a safe and healthy place to sleep, shower, eat and get the resources they need to get back on their feet. We cannot help those in need in our community without your help."*

More about Porchlight, Inc.

For several decades, Porchlight has been committed to creating solutions for people experiencing homelessness in Dane County. Porchlight collaborates with the community to provide shelter, affordable housing, and supportive services that eliminate barriers and empower the individuals and families they serve. They foster an organizational culture that values respect for program participants and staff, advocacy in the community, accountability, and diversity of persons and thought that encourages self-determination.

Porchlight's story began in November 1984 when a community effort was initiated to provide emergency services to Madison's homeless population, after multiple people experiencing homelessness froze to death in Madison. The first emergency shelter was established in the basement of University United Methodist Church, and within months, a long-term emergency shelter was started in the basement of Grace Episcopal Church. In 1987 the shelter officially became Transitional Housing, Inc. (THI). Leaders of this effort recognized early on that emergency shelter was only a temporary solution, and that permanent housing with supportive services was a necessary next step. In 1987, THI rented a duplex from the Department of Housing and Urban Development in order to house homeless families. The following year, THI made its first purchase of housing on Broom Street – a house with five bedrooms which is still housing formerly homeless individuals over 30 years later. Fifteen years after purchasing that first house, THI merged with another major homeless services provider, Community Housing and Services, Inc. (CHAS), which had been providing low-income housing and services in 102 units since the 1990s. In 2003, THI and CHAS merged to form Porchlight. For more, see <https://porchlightinc.org/>

From website: *"Porchlight envisions a community without homelessness. In keeping with our mission and values, we create innovative solutions, vibrant partnerships, and opportunities for those we serve."*

About the musicians: Common Chord

Formed in 2015, five-member group Common Chord uses their unique combination of vocal, instrumental, songwriting and composing/arranging skills to create an amazing soundscape. Their eclectic repertoire includes vocal-centric pieces with full harmonies, swingy toe-tappers, folk and bluegrass flavors, bluesy numbers, acoustic rock/pop and more, in a fun-filled presentation that appeals to audiences of all ages. They perform originals from each of three writers in the group plus unique covers from the likes of Tom Waits, the Beatles, Robert Johnson, Paul Simon, and George Gershwin, and others, using guitars, bass, mandolin, fiddle, clarinet, bass clarinet, cigar box guitar, hand percussion, and sometimes cello, melodica, and hammered dulcimer. Common Chord's debut album (self-titled) was released in January 2017, and a follow-up, *Dig A Little Deeper*, was released in early February 2020. For more about Common Chord see www.commonchord.us

About the venue

The Brink Lounge, located at 701 E. Washington Avenue in Madison (basement level; elevator available), has an extensive offering of wines and specialty cocktails, plus small-plate food items. Street parking is available along Blount Street and E. Main Street, and the two parking lots across Blount Street are available after 5 pm. For additional parking the "Good Neighbor Parking Lot" one block over is open after 5 pm on weekdays. <https://www.thebrinklounge.com/>

For more information contact Common Chord at info@commonchord.us

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