**

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**PORCHLIGHT GETS A HELPING HAND FROM THE SCREWFIX FOUNDATION**

Homeless charity Porchlight says people’s chances of recovering from the trauma of sleeping rough has been improved by support from The Screwfix Foundation. Porchlight refurbished one of its Canterbury hostels thanks to £5,000 funding from The Screwfix Foundation which supports projects to fix, repair, maintain and improve properties and facilities for those in need.

The charity provides people who are homeless somewhere safe and secure to live while they rebuild their lives.

“Safe and welcoming environments make it easier for people to overcome the psychologically damaging effects of homelessness,” explains Porchlight’s corporate partnerships manager Kate Boulding. “The refurbishment work was carried out in common rooms and other places within the hostel that residents can socialise with one another. Socialising can be an important part of the recovery process for those who spent a prolonged period of time feeling isolated on the streets.

“We’re so grateful to The Screwfix Foundation for supporting us and helping people who have been homeless to put the past behind them and regain their independence.”

Milo West Store Manager of the Screwfix store in Canterbury, comments: “We’re really pleased that one of our local charities has been awarded funding by The Screwfix Foundation. Staff from across the business have held a variety of fundraising events to raise vital funds for The Screwfix Foundation, so it’s fantastic to see the money we have raised being invested back into such a worthwhile community project.”

The Screwfix Foundation, which launched in April 2013 donates much needed funding to help a variety of local projects throughout the UK, from repairing buildings and improving community facilities, to improving the homes of people living with sickness or disability.

It also works closely with two national charity partners, Barnardo’s children’s charity and Macmillan Cancer Support, as well as supporting smaller, local registered charities like Porchlight.

Relevant projects from across Canterbury are invited to apply online for a share of the funding at screwfixfoundation.com.

For more information about The Screwfix Foundation, visit screwfixfoundation.com.

Porchlight operates throughout the whole of Kent. If you are concerned about someone who is homeless, you can call its free helpline on 0800 567 76 99.

Photo Caption: LtoR Kate Boulding Porchlight (left) Milo West Screwfix and Lisa Elford Porchlight (right)

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**Note to editors**

**About The Screwfix Foundation:**

The Screwfix Foundation is a charity set up by Screwfix in April 2013. We have a clear purpose of raising funds to support projects that will fix, repair, maintain and improve properties and community facilities specifically for those in need in the UK.

The Screwfix Foundation raises funds throughout the year to support causes that will change people’s lives. Working with both national and local charities, The Screwfix Foundation donates much needed funding to help all sorts of projects, from repairing buildings and improving community facilities, to improving the homes of people living with sickness or disability.

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