



For Immediate Release on August 23, 2021

Opportunity Partners and Blue Plate Restaurant Company Team Up for the State Fair

Opportunity Partners, a Twin Cities disability services nonprofit, recently partnered with Blue Plate Restaurant Company to assemble 95,000 food containers for the Blue Barn venue at the 2021 Minnesota State Fair.

MINNETONKA – The Blue Barn, owned by Blue Plate Restaurant Company, is ready to serve State Fair visitors thanks to a meaningful partnership. Opportunity Partners, a nonprofit offering supportive employment services for people with disabilities, teamed up with Blue Plate Restaurant Company for a fifth Minnesota State Fair. Opportunity Partners' team of dedicated and enthusiastic workers, who are also people with disabilities, eagerly took on the challenge of assembling nearly 100,000 food containers, lining the containers with branded Blue Barn paper and skillfully packing boxes ahead of the fair's opening day.

Aisha Kaylor, Operations Specialist at Blue Plate Restaurant Company, says the partnership with nonprofit Opportunity Partners saves Blue Barn workers time so they can focus on preparing food and filling orders during the bustling twelve days of the fair. Kaylor expressed her gratitude for the time and talents of people served by Opportunity Partners, saying, "Thank you for being able to do this for us [at the Blue Barn]. Opportunity Partners always goes above and beyond!" The partnership between Opportunity Partners and Blue Plate Restaurant Company isn't just about business or food — it's also an example of what can be accomplished when the abilities of people with disabilities are the focus.

ABOUT:

Established in 1953, Opportunity Partners is a Twin Cities nonprofit organization advancing the quality of life for people with disabilities. Opportunity Partners offers employment, enrichment and residential services that help people with disabilities earn an income, live as independently as possible, and participate as active members of the community. Opportunity Partners focuses on the abilities of the 1,500 people we serve each year. For more information, visit www.opportunities.org

PERSON-CENTERED LANGUAGE:

Opportunity Partners is committed to using person-centered language. Please see the provided guide on using person-centered language or contact Opportunity Partners using the information listed below.

CONTACTS:

Julie Peters, Communications Director
jpeters@opportunities.org
952-451-7527

###