

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 2/16/2022**

**CONTACT - Aneta Pietraszek**

***LADDER UP WELCOMES***

***INTUIT FINANCIAL FREEDOM FOUNDATION FUNDING***

*Ladder Up receives \$20,000 from Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation to help families and individuals seize the tax time moment to take control of their finances*

**February 16, 2022-** The Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation (IFFF), the presenting sponsor of Tax Time Allies, has awarded Ladder Up \$20,000 to support and grow its programs that help low- and moderate-income individuals and families save during tax season by using free IRS-sponsored tax preparation resources - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and IRS Free File - to prepare and file their tax returns. Tax Time Allies are a group of organizations across the country partnering to help taxpayers kickstart their financial journey at tax time.

"We're proud to count Ladder Up as a Tax Time Ally and to partner with them in this work for several years," said Susan Mason, Director of the Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation. "Together we embrace tax time as a powerful opportunity for low- and moderate-income individuals and families to take stock of their finances and set a new direction for their financial future."

"While 2021 was a difficult year, the new pandemic assistance and tax changes related to it necessitate getting extra help in navigating this uniquely challenging year," shares Ladder Up Executive Director, Phyllis Cavallone-Jurek. "The pandemic has touched every aspect of life, creating additional instability. Ladder Up is here to support our clients during the ever-changing tax landscape. With patience and attention to detail, we will make our 28th tax season the best one yet."

Visit [goladderup.org](http://goladderup.org) for more information, to schedule an appointment, or to file for free online.

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## **ABOUT LADDER UP**

Founded in 1994, when 22-year-old Chicago business analyst and volunteer basketball coach Robert Burke saw how the hardworking families of his west side team were struggling to make ends meet, he took a shot at helping. With the goal of securing unclaimed tax credits for the people of this underserved but deserving community, he recruited 90 colleagues to prepare tax returns at no cost. The efforts paid off, returning over \$150,000 in tax refunds to 120 families. Today Ladder Up has returned 1.2 billion to clients, helping more than 750,000, offering free financial programs to help clients secure the tax refunds they deserve, gain the knowledge to navigate today's complex financial systems and obtain financial aid to make college dreams a reality.

## **About Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation**

Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation is Intuit's charitable foundation dedicated to public/private/not-for-profit partnerships and programs that help bring opportunities to prosper to all, especially those living with lower incomes. Intuit believes citizen engagement in preparation and filing of tax returns is an important, empowering opportunity for Americans to understand and improve their personal financial lives. This is especially true for lower income Americans - and why Intuit has donated TurboTax to millions, founded "Tax Time Allies," and provides funding and other support to nonprofits that build financial freedom - including savings - for those who need it the most.

## **About Tax Time Allies**

Tax Time Allies is dedicated to empowering working individuals and families to take control of their finances and save more of their hard-earned money. Allies deliver free IRS sponsored taxpayer assistance programs -- VITA, Tax Counseling for the Elderly, Free File -- to low- and moderate-income individuals and families. Allies also help families learn how to invest part of their tax refund to increase savings for financial stability. The Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation is proud to sponsor and financially support Tax Time Allies. For more information, please visit

[www.TaxTimeAllies.org](http://www.TaxTimeAllies.org)

SOURCE Ladder Up