MEDIA ALERT

LADDER UP GIVES CHICAGOANS FREE TAX SERVICES DURING TAX SEASON; APRIL 16 SUPER SATURDAY FINAL PUSH

WHO: <u>Ladder Up</u>, a Chicago-based non-profit that offers FREE financial literacy and tax preparation services to low-income families and individuals. Since opening its doors in 1994, Ladder Up has returned \$1.42 billion to over 750,000 clients.

As of March 19, Ladder Up has processed over \$14 million in refunds with an average return of \$2,144. To date, this tax season, the organization has completed 6,670 tax returns, helping 9,675 individuals and households through 13,964.5 volunteer hours, given by 375 volunteers.

WHAT: With the April 18th Tax Deadline fast approaching, Ladder Up's FREE in-person and online Tax Assistance Programs remain open so that Illinois residents who most need help preparing and filing taxes get the support they need.

On April 16th, Ladder Up will "Super Saturday," increasing staffing at seven of its inperson tax sites, working with over 200 trained and qualified volunteers to help close out the tax year on a high note¹. All seven sites provide FREE tax assistance in filing state and federal taxes for Illinois residents who earn up to \$32,000 as an individual or up to \$58,000 per household.

WHEN: Saturday April 16, 2022

WHERE: Seven designated <u>Ladder Up sites</u> around Chicagoland:

AURORA – WAUBONSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE 18 S River St, Room 344 Aurora, IL 60506

BRIGHTON PARK – CPL BRIGHTON PARK 4314 S Archer Ave, Chicago, IL 60632

HERMOSA – WIC FOOD CENTER 4620 W Diversey Ave Chicago, IL 60639

HAROLD WASHINGTON LIBRARY 400 S State St, 7th Floor Chicago, IL 60605

¹ Ladder Up will still be in session on Tax Day, April 18, 2022. Check website for open locations and times for other days.

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL, CASA ESPERANZA 1116 N 22nd Ave Melrose Park, IL 60160

OLIVE-HARVEY COLLEGE 10001 S Woodlawn Ave, Cafeteria Chicago, IL 60628

TRUMAN COLLEGE 1145 W Wilson Ave, Cafeteria Chicago, IL 60640

In addition to in-person filing for qualifying individuals, Ladder Up offers the <u>eTAP</u> <u>program</u> for taxpayers with household incomes not exceeding \$73,000 who prefer to submit and file their tax documents with the help of a qualified tax preparer all online.

QUESTIONS: Contact Aneta Pietraszek <u>apietraszek@goladderup.org</u> or visit @ladderupchicago on social

MEDIA INQUIRIES: Contact Melissa Ben-Yoseph at KELZ MEDIA: melissa@kelzmedia.com or 646.450.5359