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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – January 21, 2022 **CONTACT** – Emily Riesbeck eriesbeck@rappahannockunitedway.org

RAPPAHANNOCK UNITED WAY WELCOMES INTUIT FINANCIAL FREEDOM FOUNDATION FUNDING

Fredericksburg based nonprofit receives \$20,000 from Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation to help working families and individuals save at tax time and strengthen their financial futures.

Fredericksburg, VA (Jan. 21, 2022) — The Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation (IFFF), the presenting sponsor of Tax Time Allies, has awarded Rappahannock United Way \$20,000 to support and grow its programs that empower low- and moderate-income individuals and families to save during tax season by using free IRS-sponsored tax preparation resources — Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and IRS Free File — to file their tax returns. Tax Time Allies are a group of organizations across the country partnering to help taxpayers seize the tax time moment and take control of their finances.

"We're proud to count Rappahannock United Way as a Tax Time Ally and to partner with them in this work for over 11 years," said Susan Mason, Director of the Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation. "Together we embrace tax time as an opportunity for low- and moderate-income individuals and families to set a new direction for their financial future."

Rappahannock United Way will use these funds to continue to help eligible taxpayers in our community learn about, access, and use free IRS-sponsored taxpayer assistance services as well as help them discover opportunities to save a portion of their tax refund.

In 2021, Rappahannock United Way's Free Tax Program assisted 888 individuals in filing their state and federal tax returns. Over \$899K in tax credits and refunds were returned to the Fredericksburg Region. If your household income was **\$80,000** or less in 2021, you may be eligible to file your taxes for free through Prosper: Tax Services by Rappahannock United Way.

"We're delighted to be a part of such a strong network of free tax preparation assistance providers that are tirelessly working to ensure that those who need it most, are getting access to quality no-cost tax preparation services," said Sarah Walsh, Chief Impact Officer at Rappahannock United Way. "Being a Tax Time Ally means you care about making your community a better place and empowering taxpayers to

strengthen their financial health through free IRS-sponsored tax preparation services. At Rappahannock United Way lifting up the community is in our DNA."

Visit www.RUWFREETAXES.org for more information, to schedule an appointment, or to file for free online. Rappahannock United Way is closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic, is working in accordance with CDC COVID guidelines, and will provide updates accordingly if information should change.

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About Rappahannock United Way

Celebrating over 80 years in our community, Rappahannock United Way is a local nonprofit serving Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Stafford, King George and Caroline. Rappahannock United Way's vision is a community where individuals and families achieve their potential through Education, Financial Stability and Healthy Living. Together, we can create opportunities for a better tomorrow. Learn more at www.RappahannockUnitedWay.org

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

For more information on Rappahannock United Way's Free Tax Program, please contact Emily Riesbeck, Community Impact Coordinator at eriesbeck@rappahannockunitedway.org.

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