

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FreeStar Financial Celebrates TWO 40 Under 40 Winners

December 10, 2024, Mt. Clemens, MI – FreeStar Financial, a progressive Mt. Clemens-based community credit union, proudly announces that two credit union leaders have been selected for the **Macomb County Chamber of Commerce** distinguished 40 Under 40 honor, recognizing excellence in career and community impact. **Philip (Phil) Thompson**, branch operations director for FreeStar Financial, and board member **Marc Alexander** were recognized at the November 21 community celebration.



Phil Thompson has been a rising star at FreeStar Financial Credit Union in his 11 years at the credit union and has continued to grow and develop into a positive leader. Both as branch manager and in his current role as branch operations director, Phil oversees the development of other branch leadership members. “Phil makes himself available for anyone and everyone. He truly embodies the FreeStar Financial culture and never seems to lose motivation. He inspires me every day, and I hope to be the leader he is one day,” noted a FreeStar Financial colleague.

Phil Thompson

Phil is also active in our community, building brand awareness and sharing how FreeStar Financial can make a positive impact on the financial well-being of our community members and local businesses. Phil currently is active as the treasurer for New Wave Networking, board treasurer for the Downtown Development Authority for Clinton Township, and the co-chair for LEADS Mt. Clemens.

Phil was recognized at FreeStar Financial as the *2023 Leader of the Year* for all that he does to make a positive impact in the lives of our members, team members, and community. In 2023, Phil became a Certified Financial Counselor through America’s Credit Unions’ Financial Counseling Certification Program (FiCEP).

Marc Alexander is a visionary entrepreneur ignited by purpose. That is the driving force of Lite Tuition, a Mount Clemens company he founded in 2019 to help students achieve their educational and financial goals.

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Marc Alexander

Lite Raise and Lite Emerge followed by using Lite Tuition's custom-built platform to empower organizations to increase their fundraising potential and have access to the fundraising software used by larger organizations. Mr. Alexander's inspiration was drawn through his life experience as a student at Kettering University, when an act of generosity toward him sparked his journey toward a movement of educational and community fundraising and service.

Marc is also a business consultant, social entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and published author with previous professional experience in executive management and as a personal banker. He earned a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration from Kettering University in Flint (formerly General Motors Engineering & Management Institute). His key board member role at FreeStar Financial combines his passion for community service, financial education, and support with member service and leadership.

Mr. Alexander's extensive community service and involvement through professional affiliations includes his service as president of the Kiwanis Club of Utica-Shelby Township, vice-chair of the Amour Women Foundation, board member of FreeStar Financial Credit Union, board chair of the Lite Tuition Foundation, and a member of the Clinton Township Zoning Board of Appeals.

Marc's past community service includes Clinton Township Housing Commission board member, Prince Drewry Park advisory committee member, Clinton Township Cultural Diversity committee member, Clintondale Community School board trustee, and Wayne State University C2 Pipeline advisory board member.

About FreeStar Financial Credit Union (FreeStarFinancial.com)

FreeStar Financial Credit Union was originally established in 1957 at what is now the Selfridge Air National Guard Base as Selfridge Air Force Base Credit Union. In its early years, the credit union's field of membership consisted of military personnel and supplemental staff at Selfridge Air Force Base. As the credit union has grown and expanded its membership base, there have been a few name changes, including Joint Military Services Credit Union, Joint Military and Veterans Credit Union, and Central Macomb Community Credit Union.

Today, FreeStar Financial serves the state of Michigan through its field of membership welcoming all citizens in every county and military members throughout Michigan. FreeStar has eight full-service locations and offers access to more than 30,000 ATMs nationwide, through the CO-OP Network, all supporting over 22,000 members.