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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Carla Bagley

Senior Marketing Communications Writer

Tower Federal Credit Union

301-497-7000, ext. 7144

carla.bagley@towerfcu.org

**Tower Federal Credit Union Partners with Blue Star Families**

**to Help Local Military Families in Need**

*Tower Federal Credit Union made a $5,000 holiday donation to Blue Star Families to help support military families in Maryland’s National Guard; some who have family members with special needs. Blue Star Families is a national non-profit organization founded by military spouses in 2009 to support and empower military families.*

**[Jan. 5, 2023 – Laurel, Md.]** Tower Federal Credit Union helped brighten the holidays for local military families in need through a donation to Blue Star Families, a national non-profit founded by military spouses to strengthen and support military families while they serve. During the holiday season, the Baltimore/Chesapeake Chapter of Blue Star Families helps provide free programs, events and gifts to support military families.

“We are honored to support Blue Star Families and the work they do to help local military families,” said Richard Stafford, Tower’s President and CEO. “These families serve our country and make sacrifices every day, and we are glad that we could help brighten their holidays as our way of saying thank you for their service and dedication to keeping our country safe.”

Tower’s $5,000 donation helped fund a Maryland National Guard Holiday Party for 70 military families, and also provided a Maryland National Guard family who has a terminally ill family member a fun holiday experience. The family had the choice of a night of live entertainment, crafts, and dinner at their home or a night out at the National Harbor viewing the ICE! Show, along with holiday gifts for each family member.

Tower’s donation also provided 20 Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) military families with Commissary gift cards. The EFMP provides comprehensive support to family members with special needs. The donation also provided holiday goodie bags with gift cards distributed to families at the EFMP drive-through in December.

Blue Star Families was founded by military spouses to empower military families to thrive as they serve. The organization is committed to strengthening military families by connecting them with their neighbors, individuals and organizations to create vibrant communities of mutual support.

With the help of neighbors across the country, Blue Star is overcoming the isolation and alienation of frequent moves, deployments, and other military lifestyle challenges.  Since 2009, the non-profit has delivered more than $83 million in benefits to military families and serves over one million Blue Star Members per year.



**Photo Caption:** Representatives from Tower Federal Credit Union’s Business Development Team present a $5,000 donation to Yolanda Rayford (pictured left), Baltimore/Chesapeake Chapter Director for Blue Star Families, a national non-profit founded in 2009 by military spouses to empower and strengthen military families.

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**About Tower Federal Credit Union**

[Tower Federal Credit Union](http://www.towerfcu.org/) is a member-owned, non-profit financial institution with headquarters in Laurel, MD. Established in 1953, Tower is the largest federal credit union in Maryland with over $4.2 billion in assets. It provides a full array of financial products and services and serves more than 220,000 members worldwide. Tower serves its local-area members with 12 branches in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, and Prince George’s counties and four branches at Fort Meade, as well as online services and mobile banking at *towerfcu.org*.