

## DEBORAH PRATT BURNS, FOUNDER, LITERACY TO LEGACY MENTORS AND BURNS COMMUNICATIONS, HONORED AS FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT'S 2022 ALIGNABLE LOCAL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

<u>NOTE TO EDITOR</u>: To arrange an interview with Deborah and receive jpeg images, please contact her at: <u>deborah@burnscommunications.net</u>; and for local winner testimonials and contest information, please contact: Alignable's Head of Corporate Communications, Chuck Casto, at: <u>chuck@alignable.com</u>.

**FAIRFIELD, Conn., March 1, 2022** -- The largest online referral network for small businesses, <u>Alignable</u> has announced the results of its national search for leaders who've gone above and beyond guiding peers and supporting entire communities as they strive to recover.

Today, Alignable has chosen **Deborah Pratt Burns**, of Literacy to Legacy Mentors, LLC and Burns Communications, LLC as Fairfield, Connecticut's 2022 Alignable Business Person Of the Year!

Now in its fourth year, the 2022 contest is Alignable's most popular competition, marking a 64% increase in participation over last year. In all, 2,500+ small business owners were elected by their peers to be their Local Business People Of The Year across the U.S. and Canada.

During the contest, which ran from January 10 to February 11, 2022, more than 160,000+ votes and 32,000+ testimonials were posted, praising thousands of local leaders for helping their peers and communities through a turbulent year of challenges: skyrocketing inflation, labor shortages, supply chain issues, and COVID variants. In fact, 70% of small businesses have yet to recover and recovery rates have declined 13% since December, according to Alignable's latest poll of 6,305 small business owners. This recovery reversal highlights the importance of contest winners to continue their work helping even more businesses bounce back.

"In our tight-knit community, you always get more than you give," said Burns, "And the challenges we've all encountered have compelled many of us to offer counsel and other support to peers struggling to keep their businesses afloat. While I am absolutely thrilled to receive this award, it's really a testament to our entire community."

According to Alignable's President and Co-Founder, Venkat Krishnamurthy, "This has been a fun and rewarding contest to watch unfold. Local business owners are the heart and soul of their communities, and they ought to get way more recognition for all they do. Friendly competition aside, this contest generated some incredible peer testimonials (to the tune of 32,000+), showing exactly why small business owners are stronger together."

Following is Burns' Alignable profile: <a href="https://www.alignable.com/fairfield-ct/literacy-to-legacy-mentors-reframing-your-financial-future">https://www.alignable.com/fairfield-ct/literacy-to-legacy-mentors-reframing-your-financial-future</a>

In the spirit of continuing to serve the local community and the Alignable business community at large, Burns has launched her new proprietary phased Business and Brand Marketing Communications Consulting Packages: https://literacytolegacymentors.net/consulting-packages. Each package is designed to help Burns's client businesses and brands to become more visible and relevant and increase market share. The new offering leverages her experience as a recognized and sought-after Brand and Business Strategist and Business Accelerator, builder of profitable six- and seven-figure revenue companies and brands, and successful private investor.

## About Literacy to Legacy Mentors, LLC & Burns Communications, LLC

At Literacy to Legacy Mentors, we educate, inspire, and motivate people to master their financial lives and live prosperously through personal finance education and mentoring. Burns Communications is a recognized premium branding, business, and communications strategy agency. Its primary business is branding, repositioning, and launching capitalized start-ups to mid-sized companies to become more visible and relevant, and increase market share.

## **About Alignable**

<u>Alignable.com</u> is the largest online referral network for small businesses in the U.S. and Canada. With 7 million+ members across 35,000+ local communities, Alignable is the network where small business owners drive leads and prospects, generate referrals, land new business, build trusted relationships, and share great advice.

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