



For Immediate Release
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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TWO RECIPIENTS OF THE
2026 WEST SHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUMINARY AWARDS!

CAMP HILL, PA: Congratulations to all the outstanding nominees for the Shining Star and Visionary Awards for the West Shore Chamber of Commerce's annual Luminary Awards Luncheon held on September 3, 2026! The West Shore Chamber honored ten individuals nominated by their peers because of their excellence in their work environment and the community.

The 2026 Shining Star Award nominees were:

Andrea S. Allesie, *Branch Manager III at Members 1st Federal Credit Union*

Katee Brown, *Director of Sales and Marketing of Penn Harris Hotel*

Candice S. Coleman, MHS, CDP, PMP, *Workplace Culture & Community Engagement Consultant at UPMC*

Lauren Rowles, *Director of Operations at Verber Dental Group*

Kristy Shinn, *Training & Development Manager at RETTEW*

The 2026 Visionary Award nominees were:

Kathy Anderson-Martin, *Principal of Take Victory LLC*

Cheryl Cuddy, *CEO of Vision Resources of Central PA*

Sara Elerman, *Regional Vice President for Members 1st Federal Credit Union*

Lori Mishler, *CEO & Founder of Sara's House of Hope*

Leslyn Williamson, *Regional President, Hampden Medical Center and Holy Spirit Medical Center for Penn State Health*

Voted on in a blind review voting process by a committee of our previous Luminary Award recipients, Andrea S. Allesie of Members 1st Federal Credit Union was the recipient of the Shining Star Award and Sara Elerman of Members 1st Federal Credit Union received the Visionary Award. The Pennsylvania National Horse Show Foundation and New Hope Ministries were the two nonprofits chosen by the recipients to receive a portion of the proceeds from the event.



Shining Star Award Recipient

Andrea S. Allesie, Members 1st Federal Credit Union

Andrea Allesie is Branch Manager III at the Members 1st Federal Credit Union Market Plaza Branch in Mechanicsburg, where she leads a team of 11 associates and values the opportunity to work alongside them each day. She serves as Secretary for West Shore Young Professionals and sits on the boards of the Wildcat Foundation and the Conference of Women. She also contributes as a committee member for the 2026 Community Day in Downtown Mechanicsburg. Andrea is deeply committed to helping members across Cumberland County feel confident in their financial futures. She works to meet each member where they are, building trust through relationships that reflect both their work and their goals. One example is her partnership with True Self Tattoo in downtown Mechanicsburg. She helped the owner open a business account, expand connections and grow the business through introductions to the Mechanicsburg Chamber and the Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership. She also supported participation in Jubilee Day for three consecutive years and helped plan the shop's one year anniversary in 2024. Through this relationship, the owner referred each artist on the team to Andrea to open business accounts and invited her to consult with clients on banking and lending needs. Beyond this partnership, Andrea actively supports small businesses by meeting locally, making referrals and encouraging engagement with Chamber events. Outside of work, Andrea cares for two dogs, two cats and one horse. She enjoys concerts, conventions and baseball games and hopes to travel more, especially throughout Europe with friends.



Visionary Award Recipient

Sara Elerman, *Members 1st Federal Credit Union*

Sara Elerman is a Regional Vice President at Members 1st Federal Credit Union, recognized for her empowering leadership style, commitment to service and passion for developing people. Born and raised in Cairo, Egypt, Sara immigrated to the United States at the age of 17, bringing with her resilience, adaptability and a strong desire to create opportunity for herself and others. She began her career with Members 1st Federal Credit Union as a part-time teller and, over the past 14 years, has grown into a senior leader overseeing 10 branches across five counties. Today, Sara leads a team of over 100 associates, fostering a culture centered on accountability, collaboration and compassionate community support. Known for inspiring others to grow and innovate, she focuses on building strong leaders, sustainable processes and teams that consistently deliver meaningful results. Sara's impact extends well beyond her professional role. She serves on several boards, including Leadership Cumberland, and is an active advocate for leadership development and community engagement. She volunteers as an Arabic interpreter with the International Service Center, supporting immigrant families and young women. Multilingual and multicultural, Sara brings a distinctive perspective to her leadership and service. Through mentoring, advocacy and hands-on involvement, she opens doors, creates opportunity and leaves a lasting, positive impact throughout central Pennsylvania.

Thank you to Bevrore, Highmark/PennState Health, Klock Entertainment, The Carlisle Group/ SPAtacular Escapes, and Wells Fargo Advisors, along with supporting sponsors Belco

Community Credit Union and EPIC Balloons, Parties & Events for their generous sponsorships to make this event possible. In addition, we would like to thank our Photographer, Conte Photography who took the photos for this event along with Alicia Richards of abc27 for emceeing the event.

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About The West Shore Chamber of Commerce

The West Shore Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic business organization that advances member success, influences issues and exemplifies strong business performance. The Chamber represents, promotes and facilitates business for the community. To learn more about the West Shore Chamber of Commerce, visit wschamber.org.