

NEWS RELEASE

Many Workers Can Claim Tax Credits

Free tax preparation help available through Community Action Partnership

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Local residents can receive valuable help during the tax season from Community Action Partnership, which is providing free tax preparation assistance at its offices at 719 S. Main St., 1912 Needmore Rd., and at the Youth Empowerment Center at 716 E. Main St. in Trotwood. Workers earning under \$49,078 annually may qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which could be a refund of up to \$5,751. However, in order to get the credit, people must file and claim it.

Millions of workers could qualify for the first time in 2012 because their earnings dropped or their marital or parental status changed in 2011. Many more may already qualify and don't know it. These include childless workers, persons using English as a second language and grandparents raising grandchildren.

At Community Action Partnership and other tax sites, IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers work one-on-one with families and individuals to help file their tax returns and ensure that they receive the tax credits for which they qualify. In addition, some sites can direct their customers to no-fee bank accounts, credit repair services or financial education classes.

In 2011 as part of the Dayton Area EITC/CTC Coalition, Community Action Partnership helped 715 customers electronically file their tax returns at no charge. CAP served customers at the Main St. office, the Needmore Rd. office and at the Youth Empowerment Center in Trotwood. These customers received \$1,165,909 in tax refunds. The Earned Income Tax Credit totaled \$457,015 and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) totaled \$169,776 returned to taxpayers. Many taxpayers are unaware that they qualify for either or both of these credits.

Overall, the Coalition saw customers at 11 sites in Montgomery County in 2011. They filed 3,194 total returns with a refund value of

\$4,833,147. The total value of the EITC credits \$1,805,891. The CTC credits totaled \$698,666.

The EITC Coalition includes Community Action Partnership, the City of Dayton, the Montgomery County Job Center, Sinclair Community College, United Way of the Greater Dayton Area, the Dayton Christian Center, the Greater Dayton Recreation Center, the Life Enrichment Center, the Wesley Center and the Dayton Urban Ministry Center. Over 70 trained and IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers file returns on behalf of their customers.

Tax assistance is available at Community Action Partnership beginning Tuesday, January 17. Appointments will be made Monday through Thursday at the 719 S. Main St. office, on Wednesday at the 1912 Needmore Rd. office, and on Saturday at the Youth Empowerment Center, 716 E. Main St. in Trotwood.

The Super Refund Saturday event is Saturday, Feb. 4, at The Job Center. Appointments may be scheduled beginning Monday, Jan. 9. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Community Action Partnership at (937) 341-5000 ext. 161.

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