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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release: United Way of Connecticut Helps Taxpayers Learn about EITC and Get Connected to Free Tax Prep

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Helping low and moderate income workers get connected to federal tax credits and income tax preparation assistance can help ease the financial burden on those workers. During this tax season, United Way of Connecticut is once again working with the State of Connecticut to inform and educate families about their eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other federal tax credits and get taxpayers connected to free tax preparation assistance:

- United Way of Connecticut is sending information on EITC to over 40,000 families and early care professional associated with its programs, including HUSKY Infoline, Child Development Infoline and 2-1-1 Child Care.
- United Way 2-1-1 helps taxpayers get connected to free income tax preparation support by maintaining listings of IRS offices, VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) sites and AARP Tax-Aide Income Tax Assistance sites throughout the state. For a listing of free tax preparation sites, [click here](#).
- 2-1-1 call specialists are scheduling appointments for eligible callers at VITA sites in Hartford, East Hartford, Manchester, Middletown, Bristol, Bloomfield and in the Windham area.

#### Who is Eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit?

The Earned Income Tax Credit is designed to reduce the tax burden on eligible workers and to supplement their wages. In recent years, Connecticut filers claiming EITC have received an average credit of over \$1,800 on their federal taxes:

- Eligibility for EITC is determined based on earnings, filing status and eligible children.
- Workers who earned \$48,362 or less from wages last year could receive larger refunds if they qualify for EITC.
- The maximum credit for 2010 is \$5,666 for workers with three or more qualifying children. However, workers without qualifying children may also be eligible for a smaller credit amount.
- Taxpayers must file a tax return, even if they do not have a filing requirement and specifically claim the credit.

For more information on the Earned Income Tax Credit or on locating free income tax preparation assistance, dial 2-1-1 or visit [www.211ct.org/taxes](http://www.211ct.org/taxes).

#### About United Way of Connecticut

The mission of United Way of Connecticut is to help meet the needs of Connecticut residents by providing information, education, and connection to services. United Way of Connecticut furthers its mission by providing 24/7 toll-free information and referral through United Way 2-1-1; specialized services in child care, child development and disabilities, and HUSKY health insurance; and by collaborating with local United Ways and Connecticut state agencies and elected officials.

United Way of Connecticut provides services with support from the State of Connecticut and local United Ways.