

UNITED WAY OF CONNECTICUT

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2-1-1



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: United Way 2-1-1 Conducts its Tax Credit Outreach Campaign and Connects Taxpayers with Free Income Tax Preparation

March 17, 2009

United Way of Connecticut is once again conducting its Tax Credits Outreach Campaign to inform and educate families about their eligibility for federal tax credits. Information on the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit and the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credits, were sent to approximately 75,000 families and early care professionals associated with UWC programs.

United Way 2-1-1 is also helping residents get connected with free income tax preparation support. There are over 225 sites throughout Connecticut that provide assistance to eligible taxpayers. So far in 2009, 2-1-1 has received over 3,900 requests for information on tax preparation assistance. 2-1-1 call specialists refer callers to VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) sites, Connecticut Tax-Aide Income Tax Assistance sites, and IRS offices. Callers to 2-1-1 can find out whether they qualify for free income tax preparation help, where to go to get help and what information they need to bring to the site.

Callers are reminded of the tax credit information for which they may qualify.

Eligible filers may qualify for:

- Up to \$4,824 from the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit
- Up to \$1,000 per child from the Federal Child Tax Credit
- Up to \$2,100 from the Federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit

2-1-1 provides information on:

- Over 100 VITA sites that offer assistance through April 15.
- Over 100 Connecticut Tax-Aide Income Tax Assistance sites that also provide assistance, mainly to older filers, through April 15.
- All of the IRS offices in Connecticut.

For information on the location, dates, and hours of free tax preparation sites, filers can dial 2-1-1 or visit www.ctunitedway.org/taxes.

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The mission of the United Way of Connecticut is to help meet the needs of CT residents by providing information, education and connection to services. UWC furthers its mission by providing 24/7 toll-free call center access to health and human services information through 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. For more information about United Way of Connecticut, visit www.ctunitedway.org.