

FACT SHEET

What is VITA?

VITA is an acronym that stands for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance. The VITA program offers free tax preparation help for low-to-moderate income families. Volunteers certified by the IRS help to prepare basic tax returns in communities across the country. VITA sites are generally located at community centers, libraries, schools and other locations convenient to the public.

What is EITC?

EITC stands for Earned Income Tax Credit. An EITC is a credit issued by the IRS to families or individuals whose income meets certain guidelines. For example, a married couple filing jointly with two children would be eligible for an EITC if their combined earned income in 2009 was equal to or less than \$45,292. A married couple filing jointly with three children would be eligible for an EITC if their combined earned income in 2009 was equal to or less than \$48,279.

FACTS

- As many as 15-20% of eligible workers do not claim the Earned Income Tax Credit
- EITC is the largest benefit program providing support for working families
- Up to \$3 million in EITC refunds went unclaimed in our community in 2007
- Families earning less than \$48,279 in 2009 are eligible for the program
- The IRS trains and certifies all volunteers

Volunteering

Volunteering for one session each week returns tens of thousands to local families. All volunteers are provided liability coverage under the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997.



Through Support From

