

For Immediate Release

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Editor's note: See attached for complete listing of locations, dates and times.

To schedule a photo opportunity at one of the sites, please call Jenny Parvin at (309) 269-6802.

Almost 2,700 Quad Citians Already Aided By Free Tax Services ***Appointments are booked through March 23***

DAVENPORT, Iowa – Through April 15, Quad Citians with a household income not exceeding \$49,000 will be able to access free income tax filing assistance at 16 tax preparation sites.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and AARP Tax-Aide programs have experienced a great demand for these services this year with appointments booked through March 23. To date, almost 2,700 Quad Citians had their taxes complete and there are six weeks left to go.

Qualifying residents interested in this program should schedule their appointment now for late March or early April. For current locations, dates, times and to schedule appointments, dial 2-1-1 during business hours or visit www.unitedwayqc.org/vita. Cell phone customers, call (563) 355-9900. 2-1-1's free and confidential information referral services are still available 24/7.

VITA and AARP Tax-Aide programs provide trained volunteer tax preparers who help taxpayers take full advantage of all qualifying tax credits, including Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC), and help to complete and electronically file returns. Most returns are filed electronically and taxpayers can expect to receive their refunds within seven to 10 business days.

“Our goal is to make sure families and individuals are receiving all of the tax refunds they are eligible for. Especially in this economic climate, this free service will go a long way to help people throughout the Quad Cities,” said Scott Crane, United Way of the Quad Cities Area president.

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When visiting a VITA or AARP Tax-Aide site, taxpayers should bring the following items:

- Valid driver's license or photo ID
- All W-2 forms
- Social Security Card or Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) for all members in your family
- If filing jointly, your spouse must be present
- Address and tax identification of any child care provider
- Copy of 2008 tax return (if applicable)
- 1099 forms (if applicable)
- Bank account numbers for electronic deposit of refund
- Tax rebate received last year (if applicable)
- Property taxes documentation (if applicable)

During the 2008 tax-filing season, volunteers operated 16 free tax preparation sites located throughout the Quad Cities and completed 4,620 returns, a 30 percent increase from 2007. Volunteers brought back to families nearly \$1.5 million in Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) funds; more than \$4.1 million in overall federal refunds and saved families \$670,000 in tax preparation fees.

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