



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Interfaith Community Services

2820 W. Ina Road, Tucson, AZ 85741-2502

www.icstucson.org

Contact: Deborah Carr, Philanthropy and Public Relations Director at (520) 297-6049 ext. 222

Interfaith Community Services Offers Free Income-Tax Help

IRS-trained and certified volunteers are preparing tax returns **for free** for low- and moderate-income individuals and families at Interfaith Community Services (ICS), 2820 West Ina Road, Tucson.

As a partner with United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona, ICS is offering Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, February 3 - April 9, 2016.

The volunteers prepare both state and federal returns and counsel clients to make sure they claim tax benefits for which they are eligible, including the Earned Income Tax Credit, child tax credits and Arizona property tax credits. The free tax service is part of ICS's programs to enable people in financial crisis to build the resources to move toward self-sufficiency by helping them hold on to more of their hard-earned income. Last year, Interfaith Community Services VITA volunteers completed a record 436 state and federal returns returning \$481,157 in refunds back to the community—48% in Earned Income Tax Credit.

Bob Henry, site coordinator at Interfaith Community Services, says he looks forward to volunteering with the VITA program because, "I like to give back to the community and help make a difference. I also enjoyed being able to work as a team member, and to be challenged personally to expand my skills." Bob has been VITA site coordinator at ICS for the past eight years.

To receive the free income-tax help, people must bring Social Security cards for each family member, photo identification and proof of income including W2s and 1099 forms. No appointment is necessary. Clients are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call the ICS office at 297-6049 or go to www.unitedwaytucson.org.

ICS is a volunteer-based nonprofit that provides food and emergency financial assistance to Pima County residents in need and assists seniors and disabled adults with Mobile Meals, transportation, home repairs, and health and safety needs. The agency's work is made possible through the support of 750 volunteers, 88 diverse partner faith communities and the community at large.

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