

## **TRAINING**

### **VITA volunteers needed for tax season 2012**

Share your time and skills to help others

#### **Training Dates:**

- Tuesday 12/6 from 4-5:30pm at OTHS computer lab  
“Welcome to VITA” meeting
- Thursday 12/8 from 6-7:30pm at OTHS computer lab  
“Welcome to VITA” meeting
- Wednesday 1/4 from 4-9pm at OTHS computer lab
- Saturday 1/14 from 8-noon at OTHS computer lab

**Free Training!** IRS materials are available online, CD-ROM or print versions. Visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), enter key word search “Link and Learn”. Volunteers can receive free classroom instruction, computer lab and online training, support by local tax experts, and practice with tax software and scenarios.



**Earn it. Keep it. Save it.**

## **FAQ's**

### **Volunteer FAQ's**

**Duties:** Greet clients, interview clients, prepare taxes

**Qualifications:** No experience necessary, background in accounting or income tax helpful, willingness to work with the public.

**What is meaningful about this position?** You can help workers and families claim eligible tax credits, help them achieve financial stability, and boost our local economy with tax refunds.

**When can I Volunteer?** February 1, 2012 through April 15, 2012

**Where?** First National Bank of Ottawa--south side location

Goodwill--Ottawa store

IVCC--Oglesby campus

**Times?** Mondays 9-1pm at First National Bank

Tuesdays 4-8pm at Goodwill in Ottawa

Wednesdays 9-5pm mobile tax sites throughout area

Thursdays 2-6pm at IVCC

Saturdays 9-5pm (designated dates at IVCC and Goodwill)

## **VITA Goals**

### **What is VITA?**

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is a partnership with the IRS to provide FREE tax preparation to low to moderate income individuals and families. VITA serves households with income of \$49,000 or less.

### **VITA Goals:**

1. Promote tax understanding and awareness
  2. Prepare accurate returns
  3. Encourage personal asset building
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## **Tax Credits**

### **Making Dollars and Sense of Tax Time**

Tax credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Child Tax Credit (CTC), or Making Work Pay Tax Credit can reduce the amount of income taxes workers owe.

**Did you Know?** Economists agree that EITC has lifted more families out of poverty than any other federal program. For every dollar of EITC claimed, another two dollars is pumped back into our local economy.

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## **Statistics**

### **Tax Season 2011 statistics**

542 returns filed

Refunds = \$647,000

EITC claimed = \$196,060

## **What to Bring**

Please bring all the following items to your tax appointment:

- Proof of identity--driver's license or state ID card for all adults filing a return.
- ALL W-2's and forms associated with income for your household.
- Social Security cards for everyone living in your household, including children.
- A copy of last year's tax return.
- A voided check or bank account number to have your refund deposited into your bank account.
- Property Tax Number if you own your home.
- Education related income like scholarships.
- Child Care Provider's Identification Number.

***If filing a joint return, both you and your spouse must be present to sign the return.***

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## **2011 EITC**

- Families with three or more children and who earn less than \$43,998 in 2011 (or less than \$49,078 for married workers) are eligible for a credit UP TO **\$5,751**.
- Families with two children and who earn less than \$40,964 in 2011 (or less than \$46,044 for married workers) are eligible for a credit UP TO **\$5,112**.
- Families with one child and who earn less than \$36,052 in 2011 (or less than \$41,132 for married workers) are eligible for a credit UP TO **\$3,094**.
- Workers without a qualifying child who earn less than \$13,660 in 2011 (or less than \$18,740 for married workers) are eligible for a credit UP TO **\$464**.