

United Way of King County

Free Tax Preparation Campaign



Program Background

United Way of King County's Free Tax Preparation Campaign is one of the largest anti-poverty programs in Washington State. By leveraging tax credits, like the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Free Tax Preparation Campaign engages over 850 volunteers to help low-income individuals and families receive tax credits they are entitled to, all at no cost. In 2015, the program prepared over 19,900 tax returns securing \$27.2 million back into the community. Beyond tax preparation, over 2,000 clients were connected to public benefits, such as Basic Food, healthcare, and utility assistance. United Way of King County believes that all families deserve to be financially stable and the Free Tax Preparation Campaign is a key strategy working towards alleviating poverty in our community.



Why do we do this work?



One in five eligible taxpayers aren't claiming the EITC

In King County, 40% of people who claim the EITC go to a paid preparer spending upwards of \$300 in tax preparation fees



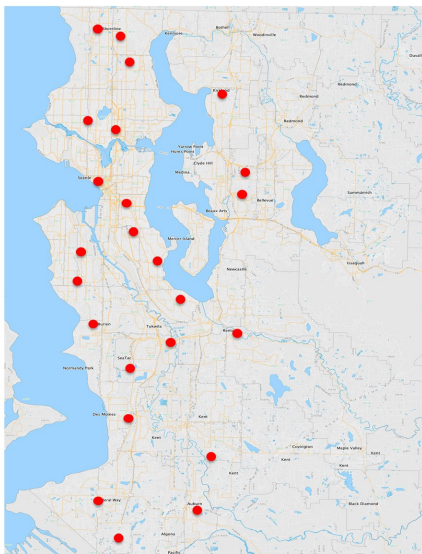
200,000 Washingtonians are lifted out of poverty every year through EITC

Goals for 2016

22,000 tax returns prepared for low-income households

\$30 million in refunds including **\$10 million** in EITC

2,500 referrals to financially stabilizing resources such as Basic Food, Healthcare, and Utility Assistance



More Information

- ◇ 24 locations in King County
- ◇ January 11th—April 21st, no appointment needed!
- ◇ Available to households making less than \$62,000
- ◇ Clients bring all tax forms, Social Security cards or ITIN letters, and photo ID
- ◇ For more info visit: www.uwkc.org/taxhelp