

Contact:
David Deschenes
Marketing & Communications Manager
United Way of Western Connecticut
(203) 792-5330 x 239



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Western Connecticut Residents: Don't Miss Out on Important Tax Eligibility Information
United Way's 2-1-1 Connects Taxpayers with Free Income Tax Preparation

DANBURY, CT (March 25, 2008) – Many Western Connecticut residents may not know that United Way's 2-1-1 line has information on over 200 sites throughout the state that provide eligible taxpayers with free income tax preparation assistance. So far in 2008, 2-1-1 has received over 2,600 requests for information on tax preparation assistance. 2-1-1 call specialists refer callers to VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) sites, Connecticut Tax-Aide Income Tax Assistance sites, and IRS offices. Callers receive information on whether they qualify for free income tax preparation assistance and where to go to get help. They also receive information on what they need to bring to the site.

Callers are reminded of the tax credit information for which they may qualify, namely, the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit and the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credits.

Eligible filers may qualify for:

Up to \$4,716 from the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit
Up to \$1,000 per child from the Federal Child Tax Credit
Up to \$2,100 from the Federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit

2-1-1 provides information on:

Over 80 VITA sites that offer assistance through April 15.
Over 100 Connecticut Tax-Aide Income Tax Assistance sites that also provide assistance, mainly to older filers, through April 15.
All of the IRS offices in Connecticut.

For information on the location, dates, and hours of free tax preparation sites, filers can DIAL 2-1-1 or visit www.ctunitedway.org/taxes.

###

The United Way of Western Connecticut was formed on July 1 with the merger of United Way of Stamford, United Way of Housatonic/Shepaug, and United Way of Northern Fairfield County. It will distribute close \$4 million to benefit human service programs and community initiatives within the three regional areas of Northern Fairfield County, Southern Litchfield County, and Stamford. The towns covered within these regions are Bethel, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Danbury, Kent, New Fairfield, Newtown, New Milford, Redding, Ridgefield, Roxbury, Sherman, Stamford, Warren and Washington. The United Way of Western Connecticut is a leader in mobilizing resources to improve lives and our communities. We bring together community leaders, nonprofit organizations, volunteers and businesses to focus on the most pressing needs in our community and provides the resources – human, technical and financial – to get to the heart of problems.