

UNITED WAY OF THE MIDLANDS CONTACT:

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## **United Way-Funded Program Will Help More Than 6,000 Individuals File Taxes for Free**

Filing income taxes can be overwhelming, and not everyone can afford to pay for expert advice to ensure they're filing accurately and taking full advantage of available tax refunds. To assist these individuals, the Omaha Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition – a program funded in part by United Way of the Midlands – will oversee five free tax preparation sites in the metro area.

The Coalition, which is operated by Family Housing Advisory Services, prepares more than 6,000 tax returns for local residents annually. In doing so, it helps low-income individuals receive refundable credits such as the earned income tax credit (EITC), child tax credit and the additional child tax credit (CTC/ACTC) and the American opportunity tax credit (AOTC). In 2017, the EITC alone put approximately \$305,000,000 back into the hands of Nebraska residents, an average of \$2,360 per household.

The Coalition will be offering a drop-off tax preparation service at its 3605 Q Street site on January 22 – 25 from 9 am – 3 pm. Then, beginning on January 28, at least one of five sites will be open every day throughout tax season until April 15. The Q Street location is open year-round to assist taxpayers.

### **Free Tax Preparation Sites:**

- Omaha EITC Coalition, 3605 Q Street Omaha, NE 68107
- North Acres Community Center, 5449 N 108th Plaza, Omaha, NE 68164
- Al-Huda Islamic Center, 4735 NW Radial Hwy, Omaha 68104
- Timbercreek Mercy Housing, 6816 South 137th Plaza, Omaha, NE 68137
- Habitat for Humanity, 1701 N 24th Street, Omaha, NE 68111

Individuals seeking more information about tax preparation sites and hours are invited to contact United Way of the Midlands' 2-1-1 Helpline by dialing 2-1-1 or texting their zip code to 898211 (*Standard msg and data rates may apply when texting*). Helpline specialists are available Monday – Friday between 7am – 8pm and on Saturdays between 8 am – 5 pm. They can assist individuals in more than 100 languages through the use of their tele-interpreter service. More information is also available at [www.omahaeitc.org](http://www.omahaeitc.org).

### **About the United Way of the Midlands**

Thanks to donors, volunteers and community partners, United Way of the Midlands is not only focused on addressing our community's human needs today; it is focused on what can be, and what should be. It is building on today's strong partnerships to create even more comprehensive human service efforts tomorrow, so our community can solve some of the root causes of poverty. United Way is community-based, community-focused. Thanks to those who share their strength, United Way is COMMUNITY STRONG. We invite you to visit [www.UnitedWayMidlands.org](http://www.UnitedWayMidlands.org) for more information.

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