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## **Riverside County: Community Action Partnership offers free tax preparation services to qualifying individuals**

The 2016 tax season is in full swing and Riverside County Community Action Partnership's Volunteer Income Tax Preparation (VITA) program is available to help qualifying residents file their taxes.

The free tax preparation services are provided by IRS-certified tax preparers and are available to anyone with a total household income below \$60,000.

"Community Action Partnership's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program offers free tax preparation and financial education and helps ensure important benefits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) are not overlooked by qualified residents," said Riverside County Board of Supervisors Chairman John J. Benoit. "I commend the volunteer tax preparers for their commitment to providing these valuable services to many during the tax season."

Based on an individual's earnings and family circumstances, a tax payer could receive as much as \$6,200 from the EITC. The tax payer may also qualify for other tax credits, including the Child Tax Credit that offers up to \$1,000 per child.

“Every year, billions of dollars in tax refunds are left unclaimed by the very people who most need those funds,” said Brenda Freeman, Community Action Partnership executive director.

Riverside County Community Action volunteers prepared more than 4,000 tax returns at 17 locations in 2015, returning more than \$8.5 million in federal and state refunds to Riverside County residents, saving them more than \$1.2 million in tax preparation fees.

For more information and to find the location of a free tax preparation site near you, visit [www.capriverside.org/program/volunteerincometaxassistance](http://www.capriverside.org/program/volunteerincometaxassistance), or contact Charles Clinton at [CClinton@capriverside.org](mailto:CClinton@capriverside.org).

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