



**HOW TO
LIVE UNITED:
JOIN HANDS.
OPEN YOUR HEART.
LEND YOUR MUSCLE.
FIND YOUR VOICE.
GIVE 10% GIVE 100%
GIVE 110%
GIVE AN HOUR.
GIVE A SATURDAY.
THINK OF WE BEFORE ME.
REACH OUT A HAND TO ONE AND
INFLUENCE
THE CONDITION OF ALL.
GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED.**

Community Investment Report

August 2010



EARN IT. \$AVE IT. GROW IT.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) PROGRAM

The United Way of West Central Connecticut hosted free tax preparation sites in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville and Plymouth/Terryville throughout the 2010 tax season. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program is an IRS-led program that is run across the country, providing low-income workers and families with free tax preparation and filing. This program was started by United Way in our area as an effort to bring unclaimed tax credits to these individuals, and thus to the community!

These sites were run with the help of IRS-certified volunteers, who donated their time and talents to ensure our clients received the largest refund they were eligible for.

The United Way of West Central Connecticut is working to create opportunities for a better life for all by focusing on education, income and health. This initiative falls under their building block of Income, which strives to help families become financially stable and independent. United Way has convened a team of community partners to develop ways to help local individuals and families increase income, build savings and gain assets.

Turn over to see the results from our 1st year →

GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

VOLUNTEER.

RESULTS:*Total number of clients = 65**Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) = \$12,051**Total Earned Income Credit (43) = \$58,052**Average EIC = \$1,319.36**Total Child Tax Credit (22) = \$24,179**Average CTC = \$1,099.05**Total State Refunds (45) = \$10,343**Average State Refund = \$229.84**Total Federal Refunds (62) = \$125,140**Average Federal Refund = \$2,018.39****TOTAL SAVED FOR LOCAL FAMILIES = \$135,483 through 465 volunteer hours***

This was the first step to help ensure individuals are claiming all of the tax credits available to them and thus, receiving more income. In the coming years, we plan to grow and expand this program to help even more individuals and families.

The next step is to help families better manage their money through financial education and coaching. We also plan to teach local high school students about the basics of money and credit to stop problems before they start in these areas.

These community organizations have worked in partnership with United Way on this initiative: Barnes Group Inc., Bristol Community Organization, Bristol Housing Authority, City of Bristol Community Services, First Bristol Federal Credit Union, Gene F. Prentiss & Company, Greater Bristol Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Community Foundation, Plainville Community Schools, Plainville Social Services, Plymouth Community Food Pantry, Plymouth Social Services, St. Vincent DePaul Mission of Bristol, Thomaston Savings Bank, Town of Burlington, Tunxis Community College, Valley Bank and Webster Bank.

BRISTOL ◆ **BURLINGTON** ◆ **PLAINVILLE** ◆ **PLYMOUTH/TERRYVILLE**

SAVE THE DATE

*36th Annual Golf Tournament
Monday, September 13, 2010
Chippabee Golf Club, Bristol, CT
For more information, call our office
(860) 582-9559*

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