



hartford region

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thousands Will Start the New Year With a Financial Boost
YWCA Hartford Region Will Serve as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Site

Hartford, CT-Beginning January 29th and running through April 15th, 2011, [YWCA Hartford Region](#) will serve as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparation site. A joint effort with the Hartford Asset Building Collaborative, VITA offers free income tax preparation for individuals and families with low-to-moderate income. This year, YWCA Hartford Region will be one of 20 participating VITA sites in the Hartford Region.

Volunteers sponsored by YWCA Hartford Region are trained and certified to prepare basic tax returns. The VITA program ensures that thousands of individuals and families take full advantage of special credits such as the [Earned Income Tax Credit](#) (EITC) and [Child Tax Credit](#). EITC's often go unclaimed due to the complexity of the forms. EITC credits average \$1,400 per household.

Individuals who usually do not file because they do not owe any taxes are encouraged to visit a VITA site to find out if they qualify to receive a tax refund under the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program. All returns are processed electronically, so taxpayers can receive their tax refund quickly and have it directly deposited into their bank account.

In 2010, the Hartford VITA programs served 5,811 filers resulting in a savings of over \$1 million in tax preparation fees. In addition, over \$3 million in EITC's were claimed.

VITA hours at YWCA are Tuesdays 3 -7 p.m., Wednesdays 5 - 8 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. To schedule an appointment, or for more information please call 211 (Infoline), or YWCA at (860) 525-1163 Ext. 450.

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Established in 1867, YWCA Hartford Region is the third oldest affiliate of YWCA, a women's membership movement dedicated to **eliminating racism, empowering women**

and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. YWCA Hartford Region provides programs and services in the greater Hartford area including child care, supportive housing, teen leadership development, racial justice awareness, financial literacy, and economic empowerment. For more information, visit www.ywcahartford.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).