



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 29, 2025

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**Free Tax Preparation Services Now Available Through Chester County United Way's VITA Program**

*Program seeks to help working residents who do not earn high wages file annual tax returns for free*

**[Exton, PA]** For thousands of hardworking families in Chester County, tax season isn't just about filing forms—it's about survival. It's the time of year when access to refunds and credits can mean the difference between financial stability and hardship. Recognizing this critical need, Chester County United Way, in partnership with Life Transforming Ministries (LTM), is proud to offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. By providing free tax preparation by IRS certified volunteers, the VITA program helps residents keep more of their earnings and gain access to essential tax credits, giving them the tools to build a brighter financial future.

"Tax refunds can be a lifeline for many families in our community," said Christopher Saello, President & CEO of Chester County United Way. "Through the VITA program, we're helping people not only navigate the complexities of tax filing but also secure funds that can make a real difference in their lives—whether it's paying bills, buying groceries, or saving for the future."

VITA offers customer service site locations in key areas throughout Chester County, including Coatesville, Downingtown, Exton, Kennett Square, Phoenixville, Pottstown, Royersford, and West Chester. Additionally, a virtual service option is available through a secure portal. The program ensures taxpayers access all eligible tax credits, including the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC).

Bill Shaw, Executive Director of Life Transforming Ministries, said "tax time doesn't have to be filled with stress or anxiety. VITA volunteers are on the frontlines to look out for taxpayers and make sure their tax filings are done right and for free."

Last year, the VITA program in Chester County prepared over 2,500 tax returns, securing millions of dollars in refunds for local residents. Beyond benefiting individuals, this influx of refunds strengthens the entire community by stimulating the local economy. To learn more about this essential service to our community, please visit [www.ChesterCountyFreeTaxes.com](http://www.ChesterCountyFreeTaxes.com) or call (610) 380-9099.

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*For more information about Chester County United Way and its ongoing initiatives, please visit [www.ChescoUnitedWay.org](http://www.ChescoUnitedWay.org).*