



# HEALTHY FAMILIES TAX CREDITS COALITION

## Fight Poverty by Supporting Free Tax Preparation

The Healthy Families Tax Credits Coalition advocates for continued state support for free tax preparation for low-income taxpayers at Community Action Agencies and other organizations across Massachusetts through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

**\*\*Support \$1.5 Million in Line Item 1201-0100 for VITA Across the State\*\***



### Overview

**For low-income wage earners – often working two jobs – the resources they access at VITA sites can make all the difference.** At VITA sites volunteers help low-income taxpayers access the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other child and family tax credits, allowing them to pay bills, cover essential expenses and emergency needs, save and plan for the future. VITA sites - typically located at community-based organizations – also offer financial education and link low-income taxpayers to other critical services, strengthening families and the local economy.



**+30,000 served**



**80 VITA sites**



**Integrating Free Tax Prep with other critical services  
(including fuel assistance, WIC, Head Start, etc.)**

### Results

VITA sites are a low-cost and high return activity offering up 60 to 1 return on investment, bringing \$60 million in tax credits back to taxpayers and their communities.



**\$60M in tax credits**



**ROI is 60:1**



**\$300 saved by taxpayer  
for service, \$9M total**



**\$1.44 activity generated  
per \$1 accessed**



**\$2,400 Ave EITC payout**



**Cost per client \$30**

### Volunteers

Volunteers are IRS-Certified and donate their time and expertise.



**+1,000 Volunteers**



**+\$2M Donated Tax Prep  
Services**



**+40,000 Volunteer Hours**



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## **Supporting Organizations**

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD)

Boston Children's Hospital

Boston Indicators

Boston Medical Center

Boston Public Health Commission

Boston Tax Help Coalition

Brazilian Women's Group

Brazilian Worker Center

Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee (CEOC)

Children's HealthWatch

EMPath

Greater Boston Legal Services

Groundwork Lawrence

Horizons for Homeless Children

Jewish Vocational Services

Massachusetts Association for Community Action (MASSCAP)

Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations  
(MACDC)

Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI)

Massachusetts Nonprofit Network

Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center

Midas Collaborative

National Consumer Law Center

One Family, Inc.

Project Bread

StreetCred

The Boston Foundation