

**CITY RESIDENTS RECEIVE OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN TAX REFUNDS THROUGH
THE VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE CENTER AT
ATLANTA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

ATLANTA, February 26, 2009 - 515 city residents have already come in to file their 2008 tax returns for free at the Atlanta Workforce Development Agency's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Center since it opened for this year's tax season on January 20th, 2009. With an average return of \$2,000, approximately one million dollars has already been generated back into the city of Atlanta through this VITA Center. To date, the highest return received totaled \$7,500.

Individual and married filers earning \$42,000 or less are eligible to have their tax returns prepared for free by IRS-certified tax preparers. On Saturdays, throughout the month of February and on March 21st, attorneys from King and Spaulding are volunteering at the Workforce Development site to prepare tax returns for eligible city residents.

AWDA's VITA Center also provides excellent access to receiving the Earned Income Tax Credit, a refundable tax credit for individuals earning moderate to low incomes. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) offers qualified taxpayers refunds of up to \$4,500. Qualifying families with two or more children can receive refunds as high as \$4,716.

"The VITA Center is an excellent year-round service that we are excited to offer not only to our adult customers, but to the participants in our youth work experience programs who are preparing for college. Students can access the VITA center to file their taxes prior to filling out their Financial Aid Forms with our youth counselors," said Deborah Lum, executive director of the Atlanta Workforce Development Agency.

AWDA's VITA Center provides free electronic filing. Refunds will be delivered by mail or by direct deposit. To file your return, you must bring the following:

What documents to bring:

1. Photo ID
2. Birth Dates and Social Security Cards for everybody on the return
3. W-2's, 1099's and all other forms reflecting income earned
4. Childcare providers name, ID/SSN and amount paid
5. Bank account and routing numbers on an official document
6. If filing with a spouse he/she must be present

Hours of operation:

Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm (Last customer seen at 4 pm)

*Saturdays 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (Last customer seen at 1 pm)
(Saturdays, January 24th, 31st, February 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, and March 21st only)*

Location: 818 Pollard Blvd., SW, Atlanta GA 30315 (Marta Bus # 49 From Five Points Station)

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