



Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.
Providing Opportunities and Inspiration since 1965

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 9, 2018

HCAP OFFERS FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ON OAHU

Honolulu- Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. (HCAP) will be offering free tax preparation services from February 1, 2018 to April 6, 2018.

In partnership with the IRS and as part of the Hawaii Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) & Financial Empowerment Coalition, HCAP's Income Tax Services/Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program helps working families and individuals get the federal tax credits they have earned. In 2017, over \$1.3 million was brought back into our community through this program. In addition to the money brought into the community through the returns, taxpayers saved an average of \$200 per return by not paying filing fees.

The success of the EITC program has been tremendous. Last year, 745 tax payers filed their federal returns at the Honolulu Community Action Program's sites, with returns totaling \$1,372,053. "The refunds that are brought into the local economy benefits not only the families, but the entire community," said HCAP Executive Director, Robert N.E. Piper. "We encourage all those who may qualify to seek HCAP's EITC services."

Returns are prepared for working Hawaii families that have an adjusted gross income (AGI) of less than \$55,000 and are required to file a relatively simple federal return. Volunteer preparers will e-file both the federal and Hawaii State return for FREE.

Return preparation services are by appointment only and all of the sites listed below are currently taking appointments. HCAP has also incorporated an online component that offers FREE online tax preparation and filing of federal and state returns to taxpayers with less than \$62,000 AGI. MyFreeTaxes.com offers an easy, fast, and secure method to prepare and file taxes electronically, utilizing the H&R Block At Home software. This national initiative is sponsored and supported by the Walmart Foundation, Goodwill, the United Way, and the National Disabilities Institute.

Contact the District Service Center nearest you to make an appointment or call the HCAP Corporate Office for more information at 521-4531.

Appointments are available first come, first served during the following days and times:

- Central District Service Center (Phone: 488-6834) Wednesdays 9am – 12pm
- Kalihi-Palama District Service Center (Phone: 847-0804) Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm
- Leahi District Service Center (Phone: 732-7755) Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am – 12pm
- Leeward District Service Center (Phone: 696-4261) Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays 9am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm
- Windward District Service Center (Phone: 239-5754) Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9am – 12pm
- HCAP Corporate Office (Phone: 521-4531) Tuesdays 1pm – 4pm & Fridays 8:30am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm

Annually, over 20,000 Oahu children and adults benefit from the services provided by Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. As part of the national network of community action agencies, HCAP has over 50 years of experience mobilizing the community and helping those in need through its mission of *POI: Providing Opportunities and Inspiration to enable low-income individuals or families to achieve self-reliance*. HCAP offers programs and services in six major program areas: Early Childhood; Employment; Education; Economic Development; Emergency & Transitional Programs; and Community Development and Advocacy.



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For more information, visit our website at www.hcapweb.org or our social media accounts:

@HCAPhi



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