



**NORTHERN PANHANDLE
EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT COALITION**
CHANGE, Inc., Sponsor Agency

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VITA SITES OFFER FREE TAX PREPARATION TO PUBLIC

It is estimated that 25% of West Virginians who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) are not claiming the tax credits; families earning less than \$40,000 could receive \$4,700 back from the IRS. The Northern Panhandle EITC Coalition is working to help decrease that number.

The EITC is not just a tax deduction – It's money hard-working American families can use to make a real difference in their lives. Use your refund to pay bills, open a checking account, buy a car, attend a local college, build savings or put a down payment on a home. To qualify for the EITC, you must be between 25-65 years of age, have earned income of less than \$40,000 (income guidelines depends on family size), have a valid Social Security Number, have been a US citizen or resident alien all year, have investment income of less than \$2,900 and not be a qualifying child of another person.

To help families save time and additional money, the Coalition is sponsoring Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites throughout the Northern Panhandle to offer residents free income tax preparation and filing, and to screen for eligibility for the EITC. Returns can be filed electronically and can be deposited into your bank account within 7-10 days at no charge.

Site locations include CHANGE, Inc.'s Weirton and Moundsville Offices, Panhandle Homes, Wheeling Jesuit University, Center Valley Federal Credit Union, Hope United Methodist Church and the Ohio County Public Library. For information about the days and times each site is open, please visit CHANGE, Inc.'s website at www.changeinc.org.

For more information about the EITC, please visit www.wveitc.com.

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