

For Immediate Release

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United Way
of West Florida

United Way of West Florida's VITA Program Produces \$850,000+ Impact in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties

Pensacola, FL – United Way of West Florida’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program processed more than 700 tax returns during this tax season.

VITA volunteers worked around 530 hours, saving taxpayers \$154,000 in filing fees and securing almost \$700,000 in refunds.

“We are so thankful for the volunteers who put in so many hours to help the hard-working people of Escambia and Santa Rosa counties,” said United Way of West Florida Financial Stability Manager Mike Eveland. “This does not happen without their passion and dedication for helping others.”

VITA is funded through grants awarded to United Way of West Florida by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Internal Revenue Service, and United Way Worldwide. Additional support is provided by Florida Blue, Pensacola State College, University of West Florida.

Free, In-Person Tax Help is Still Available

United Way of West Florida’s VITA program is offering free tax help through September. Families and individuals making less than \$60,000 or less a year are eligible for the program.

Volunteers will be manning VITA sites on certain dates, beginning May 31 through September 20, at Florida Blue and Goodwill Gulf Coast. You can see a complete schedule on United Way of West Florida’s website- uwwf.org/free-tax-help. No appointment is necessary. These sites will be walk-ins only.

File Your Own Taxes Online For Free

Families of any income level can file their taxes on their own for free at myfreetaxes.com. Filing is relatively quick and easy. You can get help when you need it, and no appointment is necessary. Go to myfreetaxes.com to get started.

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About UWWF: *United Way of West Florida is a local 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that unifies nonprofit agencies, organizations, businesses - and people - to fight for the health, education, and*

financial stability of every person in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. With a vision of a community united to create better opportunities for all, United Way of West Florida's mission is to Unite our community and leverage resources to improve lives. For more information, visit uwwf.org.