



For Immediate Release

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United Way of Central New Mexico Offers Tax Payer Assistance

Albuquerque, NM – United Way of Central New Mexico (UWCNM) helps families and individuals by guiding them through the maze of filing taxes. [Tax Help New Mexico](#) is a service of UWCNM that is free to residents who make less than \$57,000 in household income per year or are over the age of 65. In addition, taxpayers can file their taxes online for free (if their household income is \$64,000 or less) by visiting the [MyFreeTaxes website](#).

Many of Tax Help's clients have their own very small businesses. Recently, Tax Help staff helped a couple who had taken on small painting jobs for years and made very little money—less than \$20,000 annually. They incorrectly thought they were not required to file taxes. In fact, they owed about \$12,000 in back taxes. The IRS sent them to Tax Help to have four years of taxes completed. The staff member was able to reduce their tax bill to \$7,000, work with the IRS to set up a reasonable payment plan and saved them \$600 in tax preparation fees

Last tax season, \$23.3 million in total refunds were returned to New Mexico tax payers; 19,210 clients were served. In addition, there were 1,904 electronically filed returns through MyFreeTaxes. The average amount of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for online returns was \$1,683.94.

There are 29 Tax Help New Mexico sites around the state. Tax Help New Mexico recruits and trains more than 250 volunteers. The volunteers are certified by the IRS and trained to help taxpayers identify tax credits they are entitled to such as the EITC and the Child Tax Credit.

United Way of Central New Mexico, founded in 1934, serves a four-county region. UWCNM's mission is to bring people and resources together to measurably improve lives and strengthen our communities. To learn more, visit www.uwcnm.org or call 505-247-3671.

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