



The Best of Oregon

CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 25, 2018

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR EITC? FIND OUT AND GET IT DONE RIGHT WITH FREE TAX HELP

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The City of Beaverton, in partnership with AARP Tax-Aide and CASH Oregon, wants to make life a little easier for workers by helping them claim tax credits. Free tax preparation and filing is available from Feb. 1 to Apr. 17, 2018 at the Beaverton Activities Center located at 12500 SW Allen Blvd.

IRS-certified volunteers will assist local workers through the process of determining the tax credits that they are eligible for, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Last year, program volunteers served 1,755 taxpayers and brought more than \$2.4 million in tax refunds back into the community.

“EITC is a tax benefit for working people and their families that allows more dollars to flow into our community,” said Mayor Denny Doyle. “This is money people can use for groceries, rent, utilities and other bills. We want people who may qualify to have all the information they need to get the EITC and get it right.”

The EITC is a powerful income and wealth-building tool. The amount of EITC varies by income, family size and filing status. It can mean up to \$506 for people without a qualifying child, and up to \$6,269 for those with three or more qualifying children. On average, the EITC adds \$2,130 to refunds in the state of Oregon. In 2016, more than 350 local taxpayers received the EITC through Beaverton’s tax assistance program.

Free tax assistance will be offered in Beaverton Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on a walk-in basis only. Assistance will be offered in English, Spanish and several other languages.

What to bring for tax assistance:

- Picture identification
- Copy of last year’s tax return, if available
- Social Security or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for all persons on return
- Form W-2 from every employer
- Other forms and receipts, such as 1099s from bank
- Child and dependent care information
- Health Insurance documentation: Form 1095-A, if you or anyone on your tax return had coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace

For more information, visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/taxprep.

Research has shown that children in families that receive tax-time benefits like the EITC experience improved outcomes from early childhood all the way through retirement. This means better infant health, improved test scores in school, boosted college enrollment, increased earnings as adults, and higher Social Security benefits in retirement.

CASH Oregon and AARP Tax-Aide provide free tax preparation and filing to thousands of low- and middle-income families and individuals throughout the Portland metro area. For additional tax preparation sites, call 211 or visit www.CASHOregon.org.

The city of Beaverton is home to more than 95,000 residents and is Oregon's sixth largest city. We are a friendly, active and responsive city well-known for our exceptional community services and amenities, helping Beaverton residents enjoy a high quality of life. Ranked in *Money* magazine's Best Places to Live, Beaverton truly is "The Best of Oregon."

For more information, reminders and community news, visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov. Also follow Beaverton on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton or Twitter at www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton.

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