

## Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) has lifted more people above the poverty line than any other federal program, yet an estimated \$5.2 million in tax credits went unclaimed in the Seacoast region last year.

United Way of the Greater Seacoast has provided leadership and technical assistance to a local coalition called CASH – Creating Assets, Savings and Hope - which has worked collaboratively to set up Volunteer Income Tax Preparation sites on the Seacoast. Site coordinators also survey individuals seeking assistance about their financial challenges and goals to create strategies to work with direct service providers who offer a range of services for people striving to overcome poverty.

This year, volunteers serving at two sites (housed at Northeast Credit Union in Portsmouth and Dover) prepared over 350 tax returns, totaling more than \$280,000 in total refunds. Of that total, "Earned Income Credits" and "Childcare Credits" totaled more than \$100,000.

### **Our Partners:**

Bank of America  
Community Wellness Coalition  
Family Resource Center at Landmark Hill  
Fannie Mae  
Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation  
Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce  
Plan NH  
Prudential Realty  
Regional Planning Commissions  
The Housing Partnership  
Town Planners  
Workforce Housing Coalition  
York Chamber of Commerce

### ***Did you know...***

- The average amount received by those claiming Earned Income Tax Credit is \$2,000.