



BEAUFORT COUNTY News Release

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Contact:

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VITA of the Lowcountry Needs Volunteer Greeters and Screeners for Free Tax Preparation Program

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) of the Lowcountry, a program of Together for Beaufort County, is currently recruiting volunteers to help greet and screen clients at its free income tax preparation sites during the upcoming 2015 tax filing season.

The VITA free tax preparation program is intended to aid low to moderate income individuals and families with an emphasis on using the Earned Income Tax Credit. Last year, VITA of the Lowcountry, with support from the Beaufort County Human Services Alliance and the United Way of the Lowcountry, prepared nearly 2,600 returns and helped to bring more than \$4 million dollars back into the local community. Nearly 96,000 people volunteered during the 2014 tax filing season and helped to ensure the preparation of over 3.6 million free federal tax returns at thousands of tax sites nationwide.

According to Mark Schneider, VITA Program Coordinator, “the volunteers who assist in this effort experience the satisfaction of helping many in our community, while building special friendships rekindled each year when they join together in service.”

VITA of the Lowcountry will have multiple tax preparation sites throughout the area and will work with volunteers to place them at locations that are most convenient for them. Volunteers will receive training and should anticipate a weekly commitment of 4 to 8 hours during the tax filing season, which will run from February 2, 2015 to April 15, 2015.

Anyone wanting to volunteer or learn more about the program should contact George Friedman, VITA of the Lowcountry Lead Site Coordinator, at georgefriedman@sc.rr.com, and provide a telephone number and email address to be personally contacted.

