



Greetings!

I am writing to introduce you to a significant community service opportunity that your members may be interested in participating in. Each tax year, Creating Assets Savings & Hope (CASH), an initiative of the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County, mobilizes volunteers to provide free income tax preparation to low-to-moderate income households. Volunteers help working families to access tax refunds and credits without having to use costly paid preparers.

Over the last three years, the local volunteer network has completed more than **37,000 state and federal returns** for families and individuals and brought more than **40 million dollars** into our community via tax refunds and credits. Members of your group have the opportunity to increase these amounts even further and make a considerable impact on families in Buffalo and Erie County.

Under the supervision of tax professionals, volunteers will prepare federal and state income tax returns for the current year. If individuals wish to volunteer, but do not want to prepare tax returns, we have a variety of other volunteer roles including greeters, CASH Advisors, and translators. Volunteers do not need previous experience completing tax returns. CASH Buffalo & Erie County and the IRS provide all necessary trainings at no cost to the volunteer.

Working with the Free Income Tax Network is a great way for your group to contribute to the community. We would like to add your organization to the growing list of our supporters that are proudly helping thousands of low-income families work towards achieving their dreams. **Please consider sharing this volunteer opportunity with your members or even participating as a group.**

Enclosed is some additional information about the program. If you should have any questions about CASH and the work we are doing in our community, please call or email Diane Bessel, Director of Creating Assets Savings & Hope, at 716-887-2717 or [diane.bessel@uwbec.org](mailto:diane.bessel@uwbec.org).

Sincerely,

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