11 WAYS HOUSING GROUPS CAN PROMOTE THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT AND THE CHILD TAX CREDIT

There are many opportunities to raise awareness about the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) to help eligible working families and individuals claim these important tax benefits. The EITC can help workers pay for housing and meet other crucial needs. Remember, both clients of housing programs and staff may be eligible.

1. Display tax credit posters in offices of affordable housing programs, shelters for the homeless, Housing Authority offices, and in rental offices and community centers at public housing complexes or mobile home parks.

2. Insert an EITC/CTC envelope stuffer into rent bills and notices to community residents or tenants and in employee paychecks.

3. Share tax credit graphics on social media.

4. Publish an article about the EITC and the CTC in your newsletter.

5. Make the tax credits the featured topic at your next residents' meeting or your next staff in-service training.

6. Notify applicants for affordable homeownership programs about the EITC and the CTC — the credits may assist with their down payment on a home or help them qualify for a low-interest mortgage.

7. Educate new homeowners or tenants about the EITC and the CTC. The credits can help workers pay for furniture, appliances or home repairs.

8. Inform homeless persons about the EITC and the CTC. They may have worked during the year or are looking for work. The credits can help them move from a shelter to an apartment by assisting with the first month's rent and security deposit.

9. Promote free tax preparation in your community. Post the locations of Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites or work with the IRS to provide space for a new location.

10. Keep tax credit fact sheets on hand for residents and staff.

11. Provide EITC/CTC information to partner organizations, such as churches, community development corporation boards, banks and city officials.

GET IT BACK
Tax Credits for People Who Work