



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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CEO and Executive Director:
TOM COCHRAN

To: Mayors

From: Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director

Date: December 10, 2009

Re: Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Tool Kits

Over the past several years The U.S. Conference of Mayors has been involved in a partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation to call attention to what mayors can do to help working families achieve economic success. To assist mayors in doing this, the Conference is working with Casey to promote the development of local campaigns to encourage working families to take advantage of federal tax credits, especially the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC).

Enclosed please find the 2010 Earned Income Credit and Child Care Tax Outreach Tool Kit compiled by the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, which includes specific guidelines to help you establish EITC programs in your city. Additional information and resources on EITC can also be obtained from the Internal Revenue Service website (www.irs.gov).

Every year the EITC lifts more families out of poverty than any other program the federal government offers. However, it still remains one of the most underutilized programs. The EITC is a refundable tax credit available to working families and individuals earning low-to-moderate incomes. This year the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has made an unprecedented investment in tax credits including the Child Tax Credit, the new Making Work Pay Credit and the American Opportunity Credit to help low-income workers attend college, in addition to the EITC. Working Families are eligible to receive as much as \$5,657 in tax credits in 2010. With the unemployment rate exceeding 10 percent and companies continuing to make layoffs, your programs and outreach are now more important than ever.

We hope that you will join in this worthwhile campaign to help aid working families within your city. If you have any questions regarding the EITC campaign or the tool kit please contact Kathleen Amoroso, Assistant Executive Director, at (202)293-7330 or kamoroso@usmayors.org.