

Mayor Manuel A. Díaz

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PRESS RELEASE

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***For Immediate Release*
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CITY OF MIAMI LAUNCHES 2008 EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT CAMPAIGN -City residents can visit one of over 30 city-sponsored locations-

(Miami, FL)- City of Miami Mayor Manny Diaz launched the 2008 Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and free tax preparation campaign today during a press conference held at Jungle Island Ballroom, 1111 Parrot Jungle Trail.

Over 30 City-sponsored locations will be offering free tax preparation services as part of this year's campaign, with services provided from January 30th through April 15th. Eligible residents who file their tax returns at these sites can learn if they qualify to receive a federal income tax refund of up to \$4,700 via the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and up to an additional \$1,000 per child via the Child Tax Credit (CTC). In addition to tax preparation, most of the sites will also offer city residents **Benefit Bank services, which connect them with Federal and State benefits, such as Food Stamps, cash assistance and Medicaid.**

"The Earned Income Tax Credits provide such sizable refunds for low-income working families that millions of individuals are helped out of poverty nationwide due to these credits." said Mayor Diaz. "Our goal continues to be to ensure that as many of the thousands of eligible households in the City of Miami which fail to claim this entitlement annually, are provided with the knowledge and the service needed to receive this benefit."

The City's free and low-cost tax preparation campaign thus far has produced over \$58 million in EITC returns and more than \$142 million in total refunds while providing a valuable service to more than 9,200 low- to moderate-income residents each year. This program saves them more than \$840,000 in tax preparation fees.

Partners in the 2008 campaign include the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Eastern Financial Credit Union, Dade County Credit Union, the Benefit Bank, and the City's Economic Initiatives and Neighborhood Enhancement Team (NET) department.

The City is also proud to renew its partnership this year with H & R Block to offer discounted tax preparation to City residents at 13 H&R Block locations City-wide.

Residents interested in scheduling a tax preparation appointment at one of the City-sponsored sites, or City-affiliated H&R Block sites, can call 311.

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About the Benefit Bank: The Benefit Bank is an internet-based software designed to help low/moderate income families get the tax credits, health care, food and other benefits that have been created to help them lift themselves out of poverty. Programs include food stamps, children's health insurance, federal income tax, energy assistance, and voter registration, just to name a few.

The City of Miami's FREE tax preparation sites (2008) are listed below. Residents are encouraged to call **311** to schedule an appointment.

Super Sites (free tax preparation, in cooperation with the IRS):

*Hours of Operation: Mondays-Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.
Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.*

Manuel Artime Community Center
970 SW First Street, 4th Floor
Miami, Florida
33130
Phone: 305-575-5057

Corpus Christi Church Community Center
730 NW 34th Street
Miami, Florida 33127
305-635-1335

NET Offices (free tax preparation and Benefit Bank services):

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

Allapattah NET
Curtis Park
1901 NW 24th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33142
Phone: 305-575-5128

Little Havana NET
1275 NW First Street
Miami Florida 33125
Phone: 305-960-4650

North/East Coconut Grove NET
Peacock Park
2820 McFarlane Road
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133
Phone: 305-579-6018

Model City NET
North District Police Station
1000 NW 62 Street
Miami, Florida 33130
Phone: 305-795-2303/04

South/West Coconut Grove NET
3692-B Grand Avenue
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133
Phone: 305-461-7063

Overtown NET
Overtown Shopping Center
1490 NW 3rd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33136
Phone: 305-372-4550

Coral Way NET
2299 SW 27th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33145
Phone: 305-329-4750

Upper Eastside NET
6599 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33138
Phone: 305-795-2330

Downtown NET
10 NE 9th Street
Miami, Florida 33136
Phone: 305-579-6007

West Flagler NET
4343 West Flagler Street, Suite 102
Miami, Florida 33134
Phone: 305-329-4760

Flagami NET
Antonio Maceo Park
5135 NW 7th Street
Miami, Florida 33126
Phone: 305-960-2890

Wynwood/Edgewater NET
Roberto Clemente Park
101 NW 34th Street
Miami, Florida 33127
Phone: 305-579-6931

Little Haiti NET
6421 NE 2nd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33138
Phone: 305-960-4660

City of Miami Partner Sites (free tax preparation and Benefit Bank services) :

Please call 311 for appointment

Casablanca Christian Center

2190 SW 8th Street
Miami, Florida 33135
Phone: 305-642-3042

Citizens For a Better South Florida

3191 SW 21 Street
Miami, Florida 33145
Phone: 305-648-0000

Coconut Grove Cares, Inc. / The Barnyard

3870 Washington Avenue
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133
Phone: 305-446-6216

**Family and Children Faith Coalition –
FCFCFL**

5911 West Flagler Street
Miami, Florida 33144
Phone: 305-388-3000

**Greater St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal
Church**

3680 Thomas Avenue
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133
Phone: 305-582-9094

Hope Relief Food Bank

6025 NW 6th Court
Miami, Florida 33127
Phone: 786-262-2851

Hosanna Community Foundation

2171 NW 56th Street
Miami, Florida 33142
2020 NW 62nd Street
Miami, Florida 33147
Phone: 305-610-4164

Miami Bethany Community Services

2490 NW 35th Street
Miami, Florida 33142
Phone: 305-638-2283

Miami Homeless Assistance Program

1490 NW 3rd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33136
Phone: 305-576-9900

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

6375 West Flagler Street
Miami, Florida 33144
Phone: 786-487-1226

H&R Block Low Cost Partnership Sites:

1527 SW 8th Street
Miami, Florida 33135
Phone: 305-631-9018

1148 SW 67th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33144
Phone: 305-265-8961

100 Miracle Mile, Suite 104
Miami, Florida 33134
Phone: 305-774-6822

178 Giralda Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Phone: 305-444-6676

3655 SW 22nd Street
Coral Gables, Florida 33145, (at Sears)
Phone: 305-460-3443

1625 NW 107th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33172 (Sears International Mall)
Phone: 305-470-7858

2080 NW 107th Avenue
Doral, Florida 33172
Phone: 718-3991

8317 West Flagler Street
Miami, Florida 33144
Phone: 305-265-7842

535 NW 42nd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33126
Phone: 305-631-1638

102 West Flagler Street, 2nd Floor
Miami, Florida 33130
Phone: 305-372-9449

2699 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 4
Miami, Florida 33137
Phone: 305-573-1237

6120 NW 7th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33127
Phone: 305-758-1828

9013-15 Biscayne Blvd.
Miami, Florida 33138
Phone: 305-754-1463

7140 Bird Road
Miami, Florida 33155
Phone: 305-668-6381

285 NE 79th Street
Miami, Florida 33138
Phone: 305-762-4011

9416 NE 2nd Avenue
Miami Shores, Florida 33138
Phone: 305-759-8895

915 SW 27th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33135
Phone: 305-642-1169

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*Where Community Comes
First!*