

# Ohio CASH Coalition January E-Newsletter



## FEBRUARY OHIO CASH COALITION MEETING

The first Ohio CASH Coalition meeting of the year will be held February 24, 2012 from 10 a.m. to noon at the United Way of Central Ohio, 360 South Third Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. This meeting will include presentations from our coalition members and an important discussion on developing our public policy priorities. Please RSVP to Kalitha at [kwilliams@policymattersohio.org](mailto:kwilliams@policymattersohio.org). We look forward to seeing you!

## WEBINAR: TAX CHALLENGES FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Susan Morgenstern, senior attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, and Suzanne Davis, local tax advocate with the Internal Revenue Service, will co-facilitate a webinar presenting the tax challenges faced by survivors of domestic violence. The training will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., February 8, 2012. This session will better prepare tax sites to serve their clients and help social service organizations that serve domestic violence survivors by pointing them in the right direction for their tax preparation concerns. Participation is limited to the first 25 people to register at <http://www.anymeeting.com/PIID=EB55DB87844F>



**Did you miss the January webinar on purchasing savings bonds with tax refunds?** You're not too late! You can watch it anytime by clicking here [http://www.anymeeting.com/WebConference/RecordingDefault.aspx?c\\_psrId=E959D784814B](http://www.anymeeting.com/WebConference/RecordingDefault.aspx?c_psrId=E959D784814B)



## FREE TAX PREP AT WALMART? NOT REALLY!

Soon we'll be bombarded with Walmart ads offering free tax preparation services, but you had better read the fine print. Read David Rothstein's blog for the New America Foundation where he describes how this misleading "free service" will reap plenty of profits for the biggest of all big-box stores. [http://assets.newamerica.net/blogposts/2012/there\\_s\\_a\\_cost\\_to\\_free-62309](http://assets.newamerica.net/blogposts/2012/there_s_a_cost_to_free-62309)

## FREE DOWNLOADABLE TOOLKIT FOR TAX SITES

The Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED) and Bank of the West have developed a Financial Education Guide. It presents a variety of savings opportunities for clients who use free tax preparation services. It's free, downloadable in English and Spanish at

[http://cfed.org/knowledge\\_center/publications/savings\\_financial\\_security/financial\\_education\\_guide\\_for\\_vita\\_programs/](http://cfed.org/knowledge_center/publications/savings_financial_security/financial_education_guide_for_vita_programs/)



## IN THE NEWS

**United Way of Toledo and Lucas County partner to offer free tax preparation for low-income families.**

<http://www.toledoblade.com/local/2012/01/06/United-Way-offering-free-tax-preparation-to-low-income-people.html>

**Richard Cordray, director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, kicks off hearings examining payday lending industry.**

[http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/national\\_world/2012/01/19/consumer-chiefs-first-action-is-examining-payday-lenders.html](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/national_world/2012/01/19/consumer-chiefs-first-action-is-examining-payday-lenders.html)

**National Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day is Friday, January 27, 2012.** Check out the toolkit the IRS has produced to promote it at <http://www.eitc.irs.gov/ptoolkit/awarenessday/>

The National Community Tax Coalition (NCTC) will host a weeklong blog series on [WorkForward](#) to promote the day. The first installment, "What Are People Doing for EITC Awareness Day?" features activities planned by different organizations. The blog series will lead up to the release of a new NCTC report, titled *The EITC: Good for Families, Community & Economy*. David Rothstein will be in Washington, D.C. with NCTC for the release. The blog can be found here <http://taxcoalition.wordpress.com/>