

## The Denver Asset Building Coalition

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## Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) – A Valuable Anti-Poverty Tool

January 29, 2009 – The Denver Asset Building Coalition would like to call attention to the valuable role the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) can play in fighting poverty as part of the National EITC Awareness Day on January 30, 2009.

Incomes of hard-working individuals and families can be significantly bolstered by the EITC, which is one of the most efficient ways to fight poverty. The national awareness day was started three years ago because 20 - 25 percent of eligible recipients fail to claim the credit, and forego about \$38 million in Colorado alone each year.

"National EITC Awareness Day is a chance to inform hard-working Americans, who need an economic boost in these difficult times, that they may be eligible for the supplemental income," said Mark Phillips, DABC Board President. "The credit can be quite substantial, over \$4,800 for certain eligible families with more than one child."

Taxpayers with earnings below \$38,646 (\$41,646 if married filing jointly) for families with two or more children; \$33,995 (\$36,995 married filing jointly) for families with one child; or \$12,880 (\$15,880 married filing jointly) with no children may be eligible to receive the credit. Maximum credits are \$4,824 for families with two or more qualifying children, \$2,917 for families with one child, and \$438 for families without children.

"DABC participates in National EITC Awareness Day events on January 30<sup>th</sup>, and then we open the doors of our free tax preparation SuperSites the next day and immediately start helping individuals and families claim that credit," added Phillips. "The sooner folks come in and see us, the sooner they can file their tax return and claim the EITC with their tax refund. We help taxpayers earning less than \$45,000 file federal and Colorado income taxes as a method to ensure as many Coloradans as possible claim the EITC and start on a path to economic self-sufficiency."

**Details:** DABC free tax preparation SuperSite hours:

King Trimble Center Free Tax SuperSite

2980 Curtis Street, Denver, CO 80205 Open: 1/31/08 to 4/15/08 Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 6 pm - 8 pm Saturdays: 9 am - 3 pm

EITC Saturdays 1/31, 2/7, 2/14 & 4/11: 9 am - 5 pm

## **Emily Griffith Free Tax SuperSite**

1250 Welton Street, Denver, CO 80204 Open: 1/31/08 to 4/14/08 Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm (Closed 3/24 and 3/26) Saturdays (Jan/Feb Only): 9 am - 1 pm

## Wells Fargo Free Tax SuperSite

9000 E Colfax, Aurora, CO 80010 1/31/09 to 4/11/09 Saturdays: 9 am – 1 pm

No appointment necessary!

The Denver Asset Building Coalition is one of Colorado's leading anti-poverty resources and advocacy organizations. DABC leverages a wide range of tools and partners that enable low-income families to gain economic self-sufficiency and achieve economic success in life while providing significant economic benefits to local communities. For more information, visit www.DenverABC.org or email Info@DenverABC.org.