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211 San Diego Receives State Grant for Tax Refund Outreach

San Diego—[211 San Diego](#) was awarded \$376,000 from the California Department of Community Services and Development to support outreach and education on tax credits and free tax preparation services available to local individuals and families with low to moderate incomes.

The California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) is a cash-back credit that is widely recognized as one of the most powerful resources for lifting people out of poverty. The Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC) is an additional tax credit available to families who qualify for the CalEITC and also have a child under the age of six. Filing your state tax return is required to claim both credits.

“Every day, many in our region are struggling financially and it’s even more severe due to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said **William York, President & CEO of 211 San Diego**. “We also know that low-income communities of color have been disproportionately hurt. That’s why connecting folks to these critical resources is doing our part to help the unconnected get economic relief when they need it most.”

In 2019, the Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition helped 33,770 San Diego County households file their taxes for free. Collectively, the households received over \$47 million in federal and state refunds, including 8,720 households who received over \$15 million in federal EITC.

This year, Governor Newsom and the California State Legislature [expanded the CalEITC and YCTC](#) to all California tax filers, including undocumented Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) filers who meet the other eligibility criteria. Essential workers, such as restaurant, grocery, and farmworkers, make up an estimated two-thirds of this population. Also new this year, there is no longer a requirement for ITIN tax filers to have at least one child under the age of six to qualify for the CalEITC.

211 San Diego is a member of the EITC Coalition, which includes the United Way of San Diego County, Dreams for Change, International Rescue Committee, and the County of San Diego. Outreach efforts are also supported by local partners including Child Development Associates and the YMCA of San Diego County. Individuals and families can call 2-1-1 to see if they qualify for the CalEITC, the YCTC, and free tax preparation services. If you are eligible for free tax preparation, 211’s Community Connectors can schedule an appointment for you. Help is still available for those who have not yet filed their 2019 taxes and appointments for the next tax year generally open in December.

For more information about CalEITC, visit 211sandiego.org/taxes or call 2-1-1.

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About 211 San Diego:

211 San Diego serves as a lifeline connecting San Diegans to more than 6,000 community, health, and disaster support services, 24-hours a day in more than 200 languages, through a simple three-digit number, searchable online database, and online chat. 211's Community Information Exchange (CIE) technology improves the lives and health outcomes of San Diegans through improved care coordination that unites information across our community providers, making access to services seamless. For more information about 211 San Diego, visit www.211sandiego.org or follow us on Facebook by searching 211 San Diego or on Twitter @211SD.