



United Way of the Greater Capital Region

Investing in the building blocks for a good quality of life and strong community

Creating Assets Savings and Hope (CA\$H)

A United Way partnership helping individuals and families gain immediate tax savings and achieve financial stability



What is CA\$H

CA\$H is a United Way-led coalition of organizations that help individuals and families gain immediate tax savings and achieve long term financial stability. The partnership consists of the IRS, social service agencies, businesses, financial organizations, government, churches and community volunteers. Each tax season, CA\$H leads the annual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) / AARP tax aide program.

What is VITA?

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) provides free tax preparation services to individuals that meet IRS income guidelines. The goal is to help filers access the tax credits and refunds they are legally entitled to. There are free VITA sites across the Greater Capital Region. The program's long term goal is to help hardworking families develop sound budgeting practices and savings plans to meet their basic needs and achieve goals such as homeownership and education.

United Way's Role

As a leader in bringing community resources together to improve people's lives, United Way convenes and oversees the CA\$H Coalition, ensuring that efforts are effectively coordinated across five counties and that eligible individuals receive tools for long term financial stability.

2010-2011 Tax Year Results

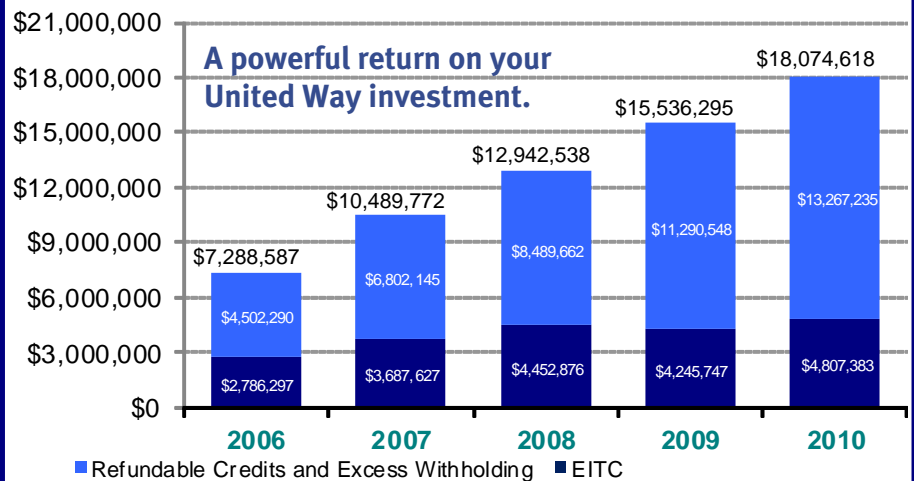
From January to April 2011, CA\$H supported 51 VITA / AARP tax aide sites in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady and Schoharie counties.

- Sites were supported by more than **230** volunteers who contributed **20,000+** hours.
- **13,165** tax returns were completed through e-filing. Additional returns were filed on paper.
- Every **\$1** invested in the VITA program yields a **\$30** return.
- Special effort is made to reach rural populations and individuals with disabilities.
- Free tax preparation services were valued at **\$2.6 million**.
- The result was more than **\$18 million** returned to the Greater Capital Region, marking a **12%** increase from 2010.

\$18 million in tax dollars was returned to the Capital Region for reinvestment in the local economy and to help working individuals and families achieve financial stability.



Total Refunds from 2006-2010 Tax Years



The CA\$H coalition is part of United Way of the Greater Capital Region's commitment to bring people and resources together to achieve measurable and sustainable improvements in the quality of life for our community.