

News



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KeyBank to Partner with the Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers and United Way of Buffalo & Erie County to Offer Free Tax Preparation Services on Saturday January 27th

KeyBank to partner with local agencies to help eligible families and individuals file for the Earned Income Tax Credit

(BUFFALO) – January 24, 2024 – On Saturday January 27, 2024, [KeyBank](#) will partner with the [Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers](#) (BFNC) and [United Way of Buffalo & Erie County](#) to host a free tax preparation event. KeyBank employees will work alongside volunteers from various organizations to provide free tax preparation services to those who need it most, helping low- to moderate-income individuals and families determine their eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

This Earned Income Tax Awareness Day event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the BFNC Westminster Community House, located at 419 Monroe Street in Buffalo. All tax filers are welcome to attend the event and the individual does not have to be a KeyBank customer to participate. Filers must schedule an appointment in advance by calling 2-1-1 or visiting www.211wny.org.

“BFNC looks forward to assisting community members each year with income tax preparation. The free tax preparation service is part of the BFNC Hope Center’s mission to provide services that enhance quality of life, increase financial security, and support economic independence,” stated Chandra Redfern BFNC CEO. “We thank our community partners for their dedication to this mission.”

“We are excited to work with the Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers (BFNC) and United Way of Buffalo & Erie County to support our neighbors in Western New York with free tax preparation services,” said Chiwuike “Chi-Chi” Owunwanne, Corporate Responsibility Officer for KeyBank in Buffalo. “We are proud to support this event that is central to KeyBank’s purpose of helping the communities we serve thrive.”

“United Way of Buffalo & Erie County is proud to lead the WNY Regional Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Network,” says Trina Burruss, President and CEO of United

Way of Buffalo & Erie County. "Not only do free tax preparation services and Earned Income Tax Credit awareness help families in financial hardship keep more of what they earn. They also boost our local economy, bringing millions of dollars back into our region each year."

The Earned Income Tax Credit is a benefit for working people with low to moderate income. To qualify, workers and families must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if they do not owe any tax or are not required to file. EITC reduces the amount of tax owed and may provide a refund. ([Source: IRS](#))

Each year, thousands of qualifying Americans do not claim the EITC on their federal income tax returns, meaning billions of dollars in much-needed refunds goes unclaimed. Super Refund Saturday is a cost-effective way for tax filers to navigate the potentially confusing tax preparation process and ensure they are getting their full return.

According to the IRS, to qualify for the EITC earned income must be less than:

- \$56,838 (\$63,698 if married and filing jointly) with three or more qualifying children
- \$52,918 (\$59,478 if married and filing jointly) with two or more qualifying children
- \$46,560 (\$53,120 if married and filing jointly) with one or more qualifying children
- \$17,640 (\$24,210 if married and filing jointly) with no qualifying children

If participating in Super Refund Saturday, income tax return filers should bring these documents:

- State-issued photo ID
- Social Security card (for you, your spouse, and each child and/or dependent)
- W-2 forms
- 1099 forms (interest, earnings as an independent contractor)
- Unemployment forms (if applicable)
- Proof of childcare payments
- Other IRS forms as appropriate
- Last year's tax return (if available)
- Bank account and routing number for direct deposit (if applicable)

If filing jointly, please bring all applicable documents for you and your spouse.

ABOUT BUFFALO FEDERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS (BFNC)

BFNC is a community agency that assists community members with overcoming life obstacles. BFNC has over 125 years of serving the Buffalo community and providing a safety-net of services to individuals including services to those living with mental illness and substance abuse; affordable housing, financial education, tax assistance and quality youth programming that provides guidance as they create their paths to success. Learn more at www.bfnc.org. Follow our stories on Facebook: @buffalobfnc, on Instagram, and LinkedIn. Listen to the weekly conversations on the "BFNC Living" podcast.

ABOUT KEYBANK

KeyBank's roots trace back nearly 200 years to Albany, New York. Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, KeyCorp is one of the nation's largest bank-based financial services companies, with assets of approximately \$188 billion at December 31, 2023.

Key provides deposit, lending, cash management, and investment services to individuals and businesses in 15 states under the name KeyBank National Association through a network of approximately 1,000 branches and approximately 1,200 ATMs. Key also provides a broad range of sophisticated corporate and investment banking products, such as merger and acquisition advice, public and private debt and equity, syndications and derivatives to middle market companies in selected industries throughout the United States under the KeyBanc Capital Markets trade name. For more information, visit <https://www.key.com/>. KeyBank is Member FDIC.

ABOUT UNITED WAY OF BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY

For over 100 years, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County has fought to improve the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community. By forging unlikely partnerships, finding new solutions to old problems, and mobilizing the best resources, we inspire individuals to join the fight against our community's most daunting social crises. We believe that to live better, we must LIVE UNITED. Learn more at uwbec.org.

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