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Free Tax Prep for Low-Income Austin Families Begins Jan. 13 Taxpayers must meet new health insurance requirement

Filing your taxes will be more complicated this year due to the requirement, under the Affordable Care Act, that everyone must have health insurance and report this on their tax return. Community Tax Centers, a program of <u>Foundation Communities</u>, will provide free tax preparation for low- to moderate-income Central Texans starting January 13 and is fully prepared to assist its clients meet this brand-new requirement.

600 IRS-certified volunteers will help fellow community members prepare and file their taxes. All of the volunteers have been trained on the new ACA requirement.

Households making up to \$50,000 are eligible for free tax preparation, with slightly higher incomes allowed for households of five or more. Five Community Tax Centers with convenient day, evening and weekend hours will be open in North, South and East Austin, as well as in Round Rock.

Many of the families we serve struggle to make ends meet throughout the year and count on the tax refunds they receive to put food on the table, pay for bills and save for their children's education.

The 2015 tax season kicks off the Community Tax Centers' 10th year of operation. The tax centers expect to return \$32 million in tax refunds to more than 20,000 Central Texas families this year. Taxpayers can call United Way's 2-1-1 line for more information on locations, hours and what documents to bring, or visit our website at www.communitytaxcenters.org.

About Foundation Communities: Foundation Communities provides first class, affordable homes and free on-site support services for thousands of working families with kids, as well as veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. We offer an innovative, proven model that empowers our residents and neighbors to achieve educational success, financial stability, and healthier lifestyles. We own and operate 18 properties in Austin and North Texas.