



LIVEUNITEDANC.ORG

MEDIA ADVISORY / PHOTO OP

Date: February 18, 2016

Contact: Maureen Haggblom 907.227.0360
Kristin Helvey 907.952.9985

- WHO:** United Way of Anchorage, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide and other partners
- WHAT:** **AMERICA SAVES WEEK Kick-off and Free Tax Prep Services Event**
- WHEN:** Saturday, February 20, 2016 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- WHERE:** UAA at University Center Mall, Rooms 113 and 114
3901 Old Seward Highway
- WHY:** The savings derived from using free tax prep services--including accessing valuable tax credits--and tax refunds are important boosts and help many in our community achieve greater financial stability.

Event highlights will include:

- America Saves Week -- Feb 22-27 -- is all about the importance of good savings habits. Alaska Saves will provide tools to help residents make a personal financial plan, and connect them to local and national resources to help them reach their financial goals. Take the Alaska Saves Pledge and get on a savings path to make dreams a reality.
- Alaska Saves #imsavingfor photo contest -- take a picture holding up a sign telling everyone what you're saving for and you could win a \$50 deposit to your savings account!
- In addition to in-person tax prep help, an online option for filing taxes will also be available for those who want to prepare and file their own taxes for free with www.MyFreeTaxes.com. Tax coaches will be on-hand to provide assistance if needed.
- Unique opportunity to be entered to win prizes when you set aside savings with SaveYourRefund.

For more information on free tax prep services, including site locations, dates, hours, and what to bring, visit www.liveunitedanc.org/tax-prep or call 2-1-1.

During the last tax season 5,132 federal tax returns were filed for Anchorage residents at no charge to the taxpayer, saving an estimated \$1,026,400 dollars in tax prep fees and delivering \$7,500,000 in refunds back to Anchorage families and our local economy.

About United Way of Anchorage

United Way of Anchorage mobilizes people and resources to make lasting, measurable changes in our community to improve lives. Our priorities are successful, prepared kids; strong, financially stable families; access to medical care for all; and a community making healthy lifestyle choices. United Way invites you to join the movement. www.liveunitedanc.org

About AARP Foundation Tax-Aide AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, an AARP Foundation program, helps low- to moderate-income taxpayers have more discretionary income for everyday essentials, such as food and housing, by assisting with tax services and ensuring they receive applicable tax credits and deductions. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those 60 and older. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in cooperation with the IRS.

###