



For Immediate Release:
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Neighborhood Centers Inc. Offers Free Tax Preparation
Houston area families offered free tax service to help expedite returns

Houston, TX January 13, 2010 – Beginning January 15th, Neighborhood Tax Centers will provide free income tax preparation at 20 locations throughout the Greater Houston area until the tax deadline of April 15th. The free service is available to families who earn less than \$50,000 and single individuals with no children who earn less than \$30,000.

Here's what you need to bring:

- A photo ID
- Social Security numbers or Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITIN) for yourself and all dependents
- Birth dates for everyone listed on your return
- Copy of last year's tax return (if you have it)
- Income documentation, including:
 - W-2 forms from all jobs worked in the past year
 - All 1099 forms showing other income received last year
- A blank check if you would like direct deposit
- If any of the following apply, bring documentation:
 - Business expenses for self-employment, including a mileage record
 - Childcare expenses, including the provider's name, address and tax ID number
 - Mortgage statement, showing interest paid (Form 1098)
 - Property tax statement
 - Sales tax receipt if you purchased a car last year
 - Record of tuition paid and expenses of required books and supplies for courses at college, university or vocational school (Form 1098-T)
 - Student loan interest paid in 2009
 - Any notices received from the IRS

This year, Neighborhood Tax Centers are expected to prepare more than 21,000 free tax returns, which will bring \$25 million in refunds and tax credits back to Houston families. Tax preparation services will be provided in Spanish and English at all of the locations. Tax preparers, who speak other languages such as Chinese and Vietnamese, will be available at select locations.

For more information on the free Neighborhood Tax Center locations, hours of operation, contact the 2-1-1 Texas/United Way HELPLINE or visit www.neighborhood-centers.org/tax.

A program of Neighborhood Centers Inc., Neighborhood Tax Centers are underwritten by the United Way of Greater Houston's THRIVE initiative and Houston Endowment. Additional funding is provided by AIG and Bank of America.

Neighborhood Centers Inc.

Neighborhood Centers Inc. brings resources, education and connection to more than 236,000 people throughout the Texas Gulf Coast area each year. For more than 100 years, Neighborhood Centers has offered comprehensive community-based programs for people at every stage of life – from infants to seniors. We work with residents of underserved communities in 59 service locations to help them discover the strengths and skills necessary to become productive, prosperous and self-sufficient. Founded in 1907, Neighborhood Centers Inc. combines passion, commitment and an entrepreneurial philosophy to make the human dream a reality for all who are willing to work for it. Neighborhood Centers Inc. is a United Way agency. For more information, visit www.neighborhood-centers.org.

About the United Way of Greater Houston

For 87 years, United Way of Greater Houston has been the social services safety net for the Greater Houston Area. United Way is a leader and trusted partner in improving lives, tackling key community social issues, and making a lasting difference. United Way of Greater Houston touches one of every two lives in the Bay Area, Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery and Waller counties. United Way focuses on strengthening our community by developing children and youth to their full potential, creating strong families and safe neighborhoods, sustaining senior independence and rebuilding people's lives in times of crisis. United Way of Greater Houston is the best way to make the biggest difference in our community. For information, please visit www.unitedwayhouston.org.
