



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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This Saturday Kicks Off FREE Personal Income Tax Preparation Through VITA Program

Appointments Now Available Through Pikes Peak United Way

Colorado Springs, Colo. — Pikes Peak United Way is pleased to offer Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) services to individuals and families in the Pikes Peak Region for another consecutive year. VITA is an IRS-sponsored program that provides free tax preparation for individuals and families earning a household income of less than \$60,000. Last year, Pikes Peak United Way VITA volunteers filed almost 1,900 returns through the VITA program, returns which funneled nearly \$2M into the local economy. This year, the nonprofit aims to complete 3,000 tax filings.

Pikes Peak United Way operates several VITA locations across Colorado Springs during tax season. This year, the nonprofit has added services in Calhan. On average, refunds processed through VITA are returned in just 10-14 days, eliminating the need for the high fees associated with many instant refund programs. February is traditionally the busiest month for the VITA program, and Pikes Peak United Way is still looking for additional volunteers to help with filings.

“As family budgets stretch, and tax codes change, it’s important that we provide a service with knowledgeable and trained volunteers,” said Cindy Aubrey, Pikes Peak United Way President and CEO. **“We saw a need in our community, and we’re so thankful for the volunteers who help us answer the call.”**

VITA services are offered in person and are available to the public by appointment only. Appointments are available starting Saturday, January 28, 2023, and will run through April 18, 2023. Pikes Peak United Way VITA sites offer a variety of daytime, evening, and weekend appointments. Appointments can be made by dialing 2-1-1 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Locations for services are listed below:

Southeast: Centennial Elementary School: 1860 S Chelton Rd, Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Downtown: Pikes Peak United Way: 518 N Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

North: Monument Woodmoor Barn: 1691 Woodmoor Dr, Monument, CO 80132

Calhan: Calhan Market Auction: 680 Yoder St, Calhan, CO 80808

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About Pikes Peak United Way: The mission of Pikes Peak United Way is to enhance youth success and family stability in the Pikes Peak region by leading and lifting the most vulnerable in our community with mentorship, life resources, and real job opportunities. Our signature programs and partner agencies focus on connecting youth and their families to help at the front end of their life journey to ensure access to fundamental needs of food, shelter, and learning resources. Pikes Peak United Way is celebrating its 100th year and will host a series of celebratory events in 2022 and 2023. Visit <https://www.ppunitedway.org/> for more information. #LiveUnited