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**Virginia Community Action Partnership Announces Grants to
Provide Free Income Tax Preparation Assistance**

Richmond, VA – The Virginia Community Action Partnership (VACAP) is pleased to announce that \$485,725 has been awarded to 19 coalitions across Virginia to provide free income tax preparation services under the Internal Revenue Service Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. The VACAP program, called the Virginia CASH Campaign, provides opportunities for taxpayers to file both federal and state tax returns, claim valuable tax credits like the federal Child Tax Credit (CTC) and both the federal and state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and link taxpayers with financial empowerment opportunities.

“We are very appreciative of Virginia’s Governor and General Assembly for funding this important work. Coalitions have been providing VITA services, in some cases, for over twenty years, including during the pandemic,” said Carolyn Spohrer, Vice President at VACAP.

Last tax filing season, over 19,700 returns were filed, bringing in over \$20 million in refunds to communities across Virginia. Erik Johnston, VACAP President and CEO, said, “Community volunteers, trained and certified by the IRS, have been the backbone of the program. The value of our VITA volunteers translates to over a \$10 million contribution to the program.”

About Virginia Community Action Partnership

Virginia Community Action Partnership is the statewide membership association for Virginia’s thirty-one non-profit private and public community action agencies. VACAP’s mission is to build capacity and competencies of Virginia’s community action agencies to achieve their mission of creating economic opportunities and facilitating mobility from poverty for the people of Virginia. At VACAP, we are committed to a future in which all of Virginia’s community action agencies are high impact and people and places across Virginia are thriving.

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