



Media Contact: Carolyn Spohrer
804-644-0417
cspohrer@vacap.org

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Virginia Community Action Partnership (VACAP) Receives Funding from Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation

Richmond, VA – The Virginia Community Action Partnership today announced the award of \$30,000 from Intuit Financial Freedom Foundation (IFFF) that will enhance VACAP’s efforts to provide support to the coalitions that provide free taxpayer assistance and financial empowerment services across the Commonwealth of Virginia. VACAP’s Volunteer Income Earned Income Tax Assistance Initiative, known as the Virginia CASH Campaign, is one of the nation’s leading Tax Time Allies, a group of organizations partnering to help people take control of their financial lives, especially during tax filing season. This grant bolsters the critical \$185,725 investment provided by the Governor and General Assembly to this effort.

“We are grateful to Intuit for building on the leadership and support of the Governor, the Virginia Department of Social Services and General Assembly to ensure Virginia is a leader in free taxpayer assistance and financial empowerment services,” said VACAP Board Chair and TAP President & CEO Annette Lewis.

Virginia CASH Campaign’s focus is to assist taxpayers file their federal and state taxes and claim all the credits to which they are eligible, like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the Child Tax Credit (CTC), the Aid to Dependent Care Credit and others. As a result of the funding from IFFF, VACAP has been able to expand the number of coalitions providing taxpayer assistance thereby increasing the number of clients assisted. That expansion has increased the credits and refunds clients are claiming and increased the federal and state tax refunds coming back to communities. A component of the CASH Campaign’s work is to furnish clients with the tools they need to empower themselves into taking control of their financial lives.

“It is incredible to see the impact that this grant and the Governor and General Assembly’s support of the CASH campaign makes in the lives of Virginians,” said Erik Johnston, President and CEO of VACAP. “Community action and our partners are so grateful for this funding and the many organizations, including the staff and volunteers across the Commonwealth that approach this work as fundamental to financial empowerment for all Virginians”.

8921 Three Chopt Road, Suite 303
Richmond VA 23229 | 804-644-0417
www.vacap.org



“The partnership between IFFF and VACAP has been very beneficial”, said Carolyn Spohrer, Vice President and COO of VACAP, who coordinates the Virginia CASH Campaign. “This funding has allowed us to convene conferences for training and technical assistance specifically devoted to VITA in Virginia to bring together VITA coordinators, managers, and volunteers to learn and to be inspired to serve.”

To get connected to a CASH Campaign member in your area to volunteer or to get help with your taxes visit <https://www.vacap.org/eitc-partners/>

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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