



**Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**UNITED WAY OF AMERICA AND BANK OF AMERICA PARTNER TO  
PROMOTE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT AVAILABILITY**

*-- United Ways Receive Grants to Expand EITC Outreach and  
Bank of America Encourages Employees to Volunteer --*

**Alexandria, VA and Charlotte, NC** -- United Way of America and Bank of America today announced a new national initiative designed to help individuals and families in communities across the country obtain tax preparation assistance and unrealized tax refunds through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Under this initiative, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation will provide \$500,000 in grants to two statewide and 31 local United Ways, and Bank of America associate volunteers will assist in tax preparation for qualified individuals and families eligible for EITC.

“United Way of America and Bank of America are committed to increasing the financial stability and long-term economic independence of low- to moderate-income individuals and families nationwide,” said Brian A. Gallagher, President and CEO of United Way of America. Gallagher continued, “Bank of America’s generosity helps support and expand United Way’s efforts to promote a critical program that increases eligible families’ access to the tax credit and, in turn, makes a financial investment in communities across our country.”

“Across the country, the IRS works with thousands of community partners helping millions of taxpayers file their taxes,” IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson said. “We appreciate Bank of America’s generous support of United Way, one of our most significant national partners.”

EITC campaigns, as they are commonly called, typically include marketing and outreach to eligible tax filers; free tax preparation for low-income individuals and families (those earning under \$38,000 annually) using volunteer tax preparers; and financial education and other asset building opportunities. In communities where United Way is involved, thousands of families have received more than \$8 billion in EITC refunds.

“Every year, billions of dollars in tax refunds are left unclaimed by the very people who most need those funds. By donating both financial and human capital, we hope to help more people effectively navigate the tax system, access tax preparation services and secure the benefits of the Earned Income Tax Credit,” said Andrew Plepler, president, Bank of America Charitable Foundation. “By supporting the United Way EITC program and others like it, Bank of America hopes to help underserved individuals and families preserve income and develop assets, and thereby advance the health and vitality of the communities in which we all live.”

United Way of America will provide leadership and technical assistance to the 33 participating United Way organizations and will coordinate key project components, including: creation of goals, objectives, and outcomes; compliance with grant guidelines; fund disbursement; and national reporting on the results of the partnership, including the number of taxpayers helped. Statewide and local United Way grant recipients will be responsible for strategic administration and oversight of grant resources by the community-based EITC coalition and will work with local Bank of America employees to promote volunteer opportunities regarding EITC outreach and free tax preparation.

United Ways that will receive grants from Bank of America include:

Local United Ways	City	State
Valley of the Sun United Way	Phoenix	AZ
United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona	Tucson	AZ
United Way of Fresno County	Fresno	CA
Orange County United Way	Irvine	CA
United Way of Greater Los Angeles	Los Angeles	CA
United Way of the Inland Valleys	Riverside	CA
United Way of San Diego County	San Diego	CA
United Way of the Bay Area	San Francisco	CA
United Way of the Capital Area	Hartford	CT
United Way of Delaware	Wilmington	DE

United Way of Palm Beach County	Boynton Beach	FL
United Way of Northeast Florida	Jacksonville	FL
United Way of Miami-Dade	Miami	FL
United Way of Metro Atlanta	Atlanta	GA
United Way of Metro Chicago	Chicago	IL
United Way of Massachusetts Bay	Boston	MA
United Way of Central Maryland	Baltimore	MD
Heart of America United Way	Kansas City	MO
United Way of Greater St. Louis	St. Louis	MO
United Way of Central Carolinas	Charlotte	NC
United Way of Southern Nevada	Las Vegas	NV
United Way of New York City	New York	NY
United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	PA
United Way of Metropolitan Nashville	Nashville	TN
United Way Capital Area	Austin	TX
United Way of Cameron County	Brownsville	TX
United Way of Metropolitan Dallas	Dallas	TX
United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast	Houston	TX
United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County	San Antonio	TX
United Way of Richmond & Petersburg	Richmond	VA
United Way of King County	Seattle	WA
<b>Statewide United Ways</b>	<b>State</b>	
United Ways of New York State	NY	
United Ways of Texas	TX	

**About United Way**

United Way is a national network of more than 1,300 locally governed organizations that work to create lasting positive changes in communities and people’s lives. Building on more than a century of service as the nation’s preeminent community-based fundraiser, United Way engages the community to identify the underlying causes of the most significant local issues, develops strategies and pulls together financial and human resources to address them, and measures the results. United Way of America is the national organization dedicated to leading the United Way movement. While local United Ways tackle issues based on local needs, common focus areas include helping children and youth succeed, improving

access to health care, promoting self-sufficiency, and strengthening families. For more information about United Way, please visit: [www.unitedway.org](http://www.unitedway.org).

**About Bank of America Corporate Philanthropy**

Bank of America has embarked on an unprecedented 10-year goal to give \$1.5 billion to nonprofit organizations engaged in improving the quality and vitality of their neighborhoods. The bank will give more than \$200 million in 2007, making it one of the most generous corporate donors in the world. Bank of America approaches giving through a national strategy called "neighborhood excellence" under which it works with local leaders to identify and meet the most pressing needs of individual communities. Through Team Bank of America, bank associate volunteers contribute more than 500,000 hours each year to improve the quality of life in their communities nationwide. For more information about Bank of America Corporate Philanthropy, please visit [www.bankofamerica.com/foundation](http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation).

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