# Developing a Successful V.I.T.A. Site

Building Partnerships Statewide Reservations & Scheduling Mobile V.I.T.A. Outreach Economic Development



WEST VALLEY CITY Unity Pride Progress

By: John L. Udseth

# Partnerships

### Local Coalition

By: John L. Udseth

## G.A.I.N. Mission Statement

The Growing Assets and Income Now (GAIN) Coalition is a community based partnership consisting of non-profit organizations, businesses, educational institutions and government agencies who are committed to providing lowincome households in the Greater Salt Lake area the opportunity to better their life.

By: John L. Udseth

# **G.A.I.N. Mission Statement** The basic goals of the coalition: 1. Awareness and Education -2. Free Tax Preparation -3. Financial Education and Asset **Building** –

By: John L. Udseth

# G.A.I.N. Coalition Members

Growing Assets & Income Now Coalition Serving Salt Lake County

- Government Agencies
  - West Valley City
  - Salt Lake County
  - State of Utah, DWS
- Colleges and Universities

   University of Utah

- Utah State University Extension Service

## G.A.I.N. Coalition Members

Financial Organizations

 Zions Bank
 Wells Fargo Bank
 American Express
 U.S. Bancorp

 Internal Revenue Service

## **G.A.I.N.** Coalition Members

Non-Profit Agencies

- Community Services Council
- Community Action Agency
- United Way of Utah
- 211 Infobank
- Utah Saves
- AAA Fair Credit Foundation
- Utah Individual Development Account Network
- Utah Issues

## **Community & Businesses**

- Solicit Business Services / donations
   Office Supplies
  - Volunteers
  - Food for V.I.T.A. Events
  - Products / Services for Volunteer Awards
  - Have them hang posters / banners and pass out brochures at their location, promoting your V.I.T.A. site.

# Partnerships

### Community & Business Resources

By: John L. Udseth

## **Community & Businesses**

 Use direct mailers and newsletters to Weed & Seed / CDBG areas explaining V.I.T.A. and other program offerings Use Local or State Government Mailings to save money. Solicit Apartment Managers and have them help promote your site. Solicit Churches for Volunteers and to promote your site.

# West Valley Community Center

### **Our Direct Partners**

By: John L. Udseth

## WVCC V.I.T.A Partners

- Wells Fargo Bank (Intake & New Accounts)
- Clearfield Job Corp Center
- Catholic Community Services
- Salt Lake County Parks and Rec.
- Family Support Services
- West Valley City Housing Authority
- Utah Non-profit Housing Corp.
- Sanderson Center for the Deaf
- U.S. Forest Service National Imaging Center

# WVCC V.I.T.A. Partners

- G.A.I.N. Coalition
- Granger Christian Church
- West Valley City
- American Express
- Cricket Communications
- Fox13 News
- Salt Lake Tribune
- West Valley City Public Access CH17
- West Valley Journal



### **Recruiting Ideas**

By: John L. Udseth

West Valley City, Weed and Seed

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### Volunteers

- Require mandatory Staff Participation
- Solicit Local Churches
- Use Partner Organizations
- Past Program Recipients (Keep List)
- Americorp / VISTA
- Local Private Schools and Universities
- Courts (DUI and other minor offences)
  Solicit Local Businesses

# Media & Public Affairs

### West Valley City, Promotion

By: John L. Udseth

### Media and Public Affairs



-Dennis Nordfelt Mayor

 Quarterly Mayors Message Kick-off events and Open Houses Media Interviews Access to City Facilities and Resources Employee Participation

## Media and Public Affairs

Free Income Tax Preparation for households earning less than \$35,500

Free, confidential tax preparation assistance from trained volunteers is available through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

For more information about VITA, dial 2-1-1.

West Valley City Channel 17 www.ci.westvalleycity-ut.gov

By: John L. Udseth

### Media and Public Affairs

### The Salt Lake Tribune

http://www.sltrib.com

Article Last Updated: 3/04/2006 12:28 PM

#### Volunteers spread word on tax credits

Cutting the pinch: The complicated process of finding loopholes can be well worth the effort

By Pamela Manson The Salt Lake Tribune Salt Lake Tribune

In 2003, more than a third of Utahns who were eligible to take an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITA) instead left the money in the federal treasury, the highest percentage of nonclaimants in the nation.

This year, several groups hope to shrink that number with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, or VITA, which offers help to low- and moderate-income wage earners with household incomes of less than \$37,000. Utahns lost about \$81 million by not taking the EITC for tax year 2002, the most recent year figures are available.

By: John L. Udseth

# Financial-Literacy

Ideas for your site

By: John L. Udseth

## Financial Literacy

- FDIC Software
- Urban Tech Financial Literacy
   Programs
- IDA Financial Literacy Requirements
- Local Banks and Credit Unions
- Non-profit credit counseling services

### Break Time! 5-Min

Utah Statewide Reservation & Scheduling System

**Coming up next:** 

By: John L. Udseth

FMPLOYEES

# Reservations & Scheduling

### Utah 211 Infobank AAA Fair Credit Foundation

By: John L. Udseth

#### Need Answers? Need help? Dial 2-1-1.

211 Info Bank, a program of Community Services Council, is a free information and referral line for health, human and community services. 211 provides information and referral on topics such as emergency food pantries, rental assistance, public health clinics, child care resources, support groups, legal aid, and a variety of non-profit and governmental agencies.

#### Updated Resource lists are now available!

Click here to browse our updated resource lists, including youth, general, and homeless resource lists. Each list can be printed, and circulated as needed.

2 new resource lists are available for energy saving tips. Energy Conservation Tips Simple Draft Stopper Press Release

A new resource website is available for caregivers. www.ucare.utah.gov



#### **Community Resource Alerts:**

#### The 2005-06 Human Services Directory is available!

#### >> Buy your copy today! <<

#### 211 Info Bank expands services statewide.

As of February 11, 2005 the 3-digit dialing code, 2-1-1, can now be accessed from anywhere in the state of Utah.

#### Dial 2-1-1 for more information.

#### 2005 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

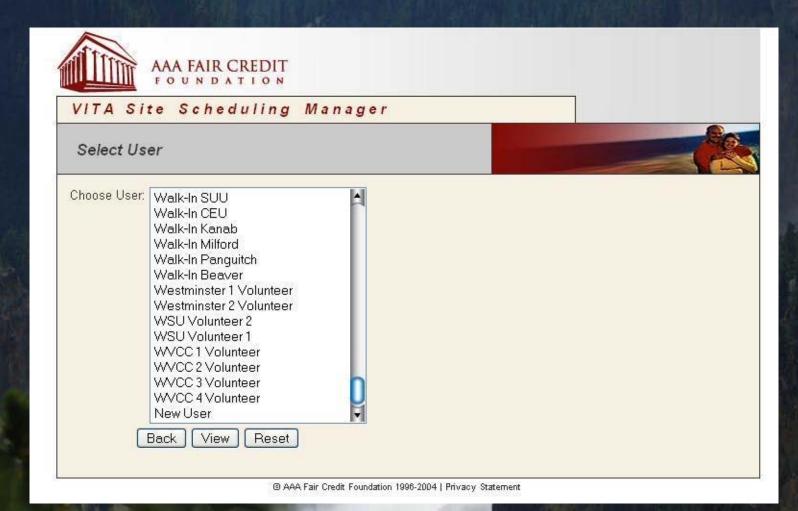
The VITA program assists individuals or families whose income is approximately below \$37,000 a year to e-file their simple tax returns. A goal of VITA is to assure those applicable claim the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) which can bring them up to \$4,400. The 211 Info Bank is setting up appointments or providing information on walk-in VITA sites.

🕹 AAA Fair Credit Foundation - Login - Mozilla Firefox
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🛄 Customize Links 🔲 Free Hotmail 📋 Windows Marketplace 🔛 Windows Media 🔛 Windows
AAA FAIR CREDIT
VITA Site Scheduling Manager
Login
User Name: Password: Submit Reset
I AAA Fair Credit Foundation 1996-2004   Privacy Statement
hn L. Udseth West Valley City, Weed and Seed

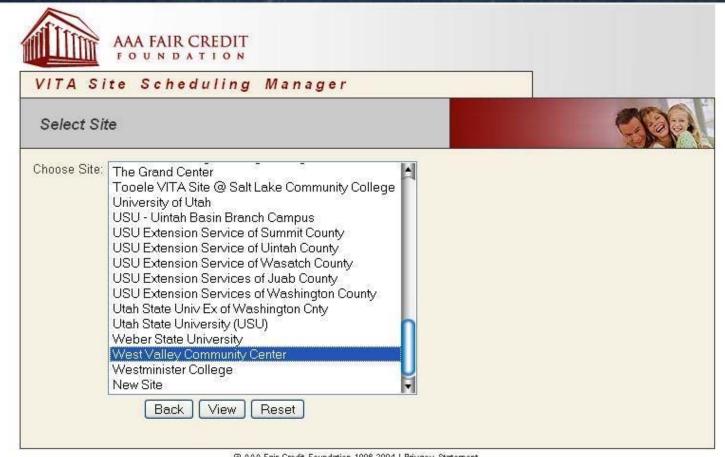
By: Jo

AAA FAIR C	TION	
VITA Site Sched	luling Manager	
Scheduler Home		
S	Scheduler Home	
Resources	Message Center	
Find Sites		
Manage Users Technical Support		
Manage Sites		
Search for Appointment		
Calendars		
My Appointments		
	AAA Fair Credit Foundation 1996-2004   Priv	

By: John L. Udseth



By: John L. Udseth



3 AAA Fair Credit Foundation 1996-2004 | Privacy Statement

By: John L. Udseth

VITA SI	ite Scheduling Manager	
Site Info		
Site Name:	West Valley Community	
Address:	3818 West 4700 South (c	
City:	West Valley City	
State:	Utah	
Zip:	84119	
Phone:	801-968-3715	
Site Type:	VITA 💌	
Appointment	s: Yes 💿 🛛 No 🔿	
Spanish:	Yes 💿 No 🔿	

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AAA FAIR CREDIT

#### VITA Site Scheduling Manager

Schedule

	Saturday, December 30, 1899	
Hour		
12:00 AM		
01:00 AM		
02:00 AM		
03:00 AM		
04:00 AM		
05:00 AM		
06:00 AM		
07:00 AM		
08:00 AM		
09:00 AM		
10:00 AM		
11:00 AM		
12:00 PM		

By: John L. Udseth

• For more information about Utah's V.I.T.A scheduling system, contact **Preston Cochran AAA Fair Credit Foundation** 230 West 200 South, Suite 3104 Salt Lake City, UT 84101 Phone (801) 656-1600 Email: preston@faircredit.org • www.faircredit.org

### Taking VITA to those who cannot come to you!

By: John L. Udseth

### • Find a need

- Domestic Violence Shelters
- Deaf and Blind Centers
- Homeless Resource Centers & Shelters
- Remote areas of the community
- Schedule early, schedule late
  - Most people want refund ASAP
  - Procrastinators wait until the last minute

### • Equipment

- Laptops
- Network Switch with cables
- Power strips and extension cords
- Networked or Shared Printer
- Laptop configured as a served (dedicated)
- Internet Access optional
- Laptop and security cable locks

### • Equipment

- Plastic storage tubs
- VITA forms Brochures Manuals Folders
- Extra Paper and Printer Toner/Ink
- Extra Paper and Printer Toner/Ink
- Extra Paper and Printer Toner/Ink
- Clipboard and Pens, Lots of Pens
- Hand Carts

• For more information on Mobile V.I.T.A. solutions contact: John Udseth West Valley Community Center 3818 W. 4700 S. West Valley City, UT 84118 Phone: (801) 403-5330 Email: judseth@infominetech.net

# Economic Development

V.I.T.A the key to sustainability

By: John L. Udseth

Economic Development And Sustainability

- Municipalities receive 1/3 or more of their revenue from sales taxes
- VITA patrons <u>spend locally</u>
- Unrealized Tax Revenue
- Many unaware of EIC
- Savings from filing fees kept local
- VITA = Sustainability

# West Valley City Stats

- WVCC & Redwood Sites
- Returns (E-File Only): 1298
- EIC: \$665,613.00
- Refunds: \$1,584,553.00 (Federal)
- Filing Savings \$389,400.00 (est)\*
- 20% increase in returns over 2004

Figures as of 5/10/06

\* Estimated at \$300 Average Prepares Fee Per Return (Source IRS-Phoenix)

By: John L. Udseth West Valley City, Weed and Seed



### **Presentation Materials**

#### http://infominetech.net/1244.html

#### idows Marketplace 🔄 Windows Media 🔄 Window

	CCDO National Law Enforcement Conference 2006
	V.I.T.A. Presentation Documents
e	The following Documents are available for Download:
e act	<u>VITA</u> Salt Lake Tribune Story about West Valley Community Center's VITA site.
ort	VITA CCDO LEC 2006.pdf PowerPoint Presentation
ning	FLYER Winter 2006 V.I.T.A & Programs Flyer.
tal Gallery	
ΤΑ	

Copies of this presentation and supporting documents are available online at: <u>www.infominetech.net</u> Click on the VITA link.

By: John L. Udseth