

Free Tax Preparation Program Impact Snapshot, FY20

United Way of Washtenaw County provides free tax preparation services to individuals and families with low incomes, allowing them to receive the maximum refund possible to meet their own basic needs or save for the future. This year our services also helped people access Covid-19 stimulus payments.



United Way of Washtenaw County

Our Impact: By the Numbers

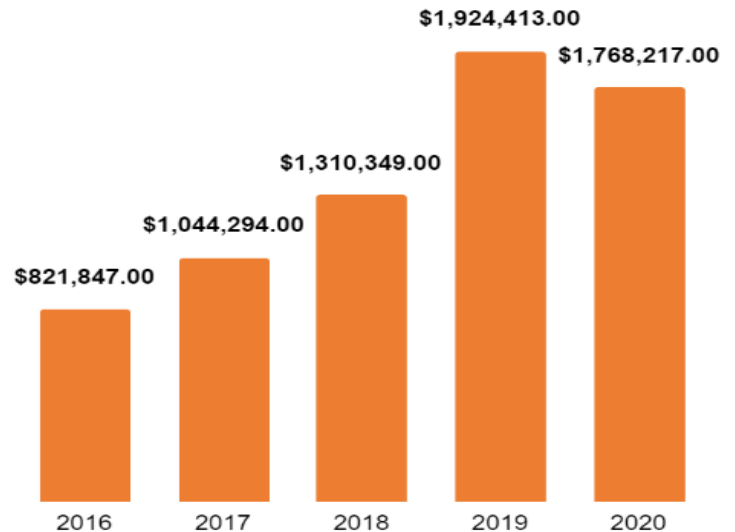
- 1,064:** Number of free tax returns filed
- \$1.75 million:** total in tax returns and credits returned to Washtenaw County
- \$1,694:** Average tax refund amount
- \$266,000:** Total amount saved by participants by using our free service*

Why This Matters

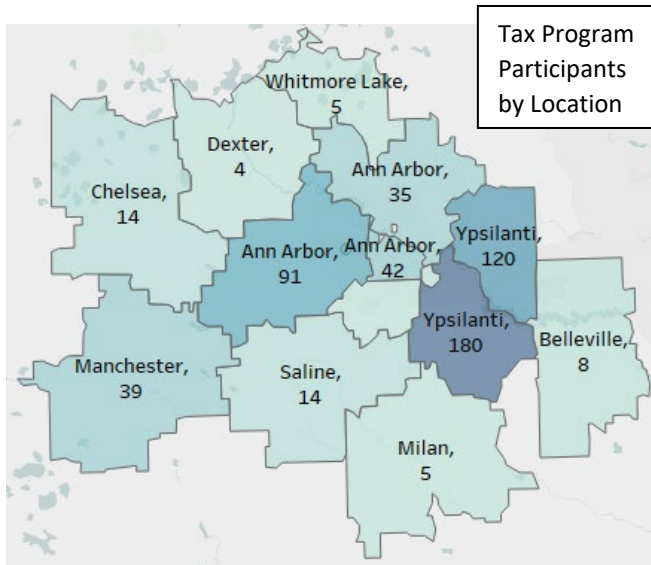
Our tax program ensures that people get the maximum refund they are due without having to pay expensive tax prep fees or be subject to predatory refund-anticipation loans. This bolsters financial stability within our community and injects more dollars back into our local economy. Even with the COVID-19 crisis causing cancellation of 1/3 of our appointments, we were able to resume service to our community.

*Calculated using average cost of filing a tax return at a paid preparer: \$250

Total Dollars Returned to Washtenaw County from Tax Refunds and Credits



Our Impact: Participant Profile



- \$19,228:** Average annual participant income
- 47:** Average age of tax program participant
- 6-99:** Age range of program participants
- 27% :** Received the Earned Income Tax Credit, a credit designed to help working families

Why This Matters

According to United Way's ALICE report, 39% of Washtenaw County residents are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. More than half (56%) of these ALICE community members reside in the Ypsilanti area, This is why our financial stability work focuses largely on supporting agencies and individuals in the Ypsilanti community

Our Tax Program serve Individuals and Families with Low Incomes



For more information about our Free Tax Preparation services or volunteer opportunities, visit us online at uwgive.org/freetaxhelp or contact vita@uwwashtenaw.org