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## **City of Miami Launches Important New Community Service at Jose Marti Park**

**(Miami, FL January 27, 2012)**— The City of Miami is once again joining forces with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and its partners to assist residents with their 2011 income tax preparation.

**Over 20 City-sponsored locations are offering free tax preparation services and for other important resources such as FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) using the Benefit Bank (TBB) as part of this year's campaign, with services provided through April 15th.** Residents wishing to file their tax returns at these sites can learn if they qualify to receive a federal income tax refund of up to \$5,751 via the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and up to an additional \$1000 per child via the Child Tax Credit (CTC). In addition to free tax preparation, all City of Miami sites are able to provide electronic filing for both taxes and other benefits to provide a quicker turn around. Partner sites using the Benefit Bank can handle tax returns who household incomes do not exceed \$60,000. The IRS partnered sites (2) are appropriate for household incomes that do not exceed \$49,078.

The City's free and low-cost tax preparation campaign thus far has produced over \$72 million in EITC returns and more than \$176 million in total refunds while providing a valuable service to thousands of low- to moderate-income residents each year. This program saves residents more than \$3.5 million in tax preparation fees.

Partners in the 2011 campaign include: the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), City's Economic Initiatives, Neighborhood Enhancement Team (NET) department, Corpus Christi Catholic Church, and many faith-based and community-based organizations.

**WHAT:** Free Tax Preparation Services

**WHEN:** Friday, January 27, 2012, at 2:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Jose Marti Park 362 SW 4th Street

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*Approved*

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