

Agenda Summary Report (ASR)

Franklin County Board of Commissioners

DATE SUBMITTED: 01-03-2023	PREPARED BY: Perla Gamboa
Meeting Date Requested: 01-10-2023	PRESENTED BY: Department of Revenue
ITEM: (Select One) ☐ Consent Agenda ☐ Brought Before the Board Time needed:	
SUBJECT: Working Families Tax Credit, a new refund for working families and individuals in Washington State	
BACKGROUND: The WFTC program was passed in 2021 and goes live in 2023. The program provides up to a \$1,200 refund to eligible low-to-moderate income working individuals and families in Washington. Eligibility requirements include, among others, eligibility to claim the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and residency in the state. Unlike the federal EITC program, individuals with a valid ITIN are also eligible to apply. We anticipate around 400,000 individuals will be eligible for the credit. To date, the WFTC outreach team has done the following: • Hired a marketing vendor to launch a robust media campaign to promote WFTC through tv, billboard, digital, and social media channels. • Launched a new website at WorkingFamiliesCredit.wa.gov that includes important information about the program, an eligibility checker, a partner toolkit with materials and resources, and an opportunity to sign up for key notifications about the program. • Conducted speaking engagements and attended various events around the state to introduce the program and drive awareness. • Partnered with the Department of Commerce to award \$10 million in community outreach grants to organizations to promote the WFTC program and provide application assistance. We are requesting the opportunity to meet with your county officials to share more about the WFTC program and strategize on how we may partner with you to promote WFTC to your residents and communities. We would be happy to attend a council meeting or provide materials that you may include in your county publications, newsletters, or website.	
RECOMMENDATION: Presentation purposes	
ATTACHMENTS: (Documents you are submitting to the Board)	

I certify the above information is accurate and complete.

Perla Gamboa, WFTC Outreach Manager _____ Name, Title

1-10-23

Karin Milham

From: Dixon, Kevin (DOR) <KevinD@DOR.WA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 5:43 AM
Cc: Gamboa, Perla (DOR)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Introduction - Working Families Tax Credit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Franklin County. Be careful when following links or opening attachments.

Good morning County Officials,

By way of introduction, I am Kevin Dixon, the Assistant Director of the Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) division with the Washington Department of Revenue. Copied on this email is Perla Gamboa, who is the Outreach & Community Partnerships Manager for the WFTC division. We are eager to reach out to the local jurisdictions around Washington to promote the new WFTC program.

The WFTC program was passed in 2021 and goes live in 2023. The program provides up to a \$1,200 refund to eligible low-to-moderate income working individuals and families in Washington. Eligibility requirements include, among others, eligibility to claim the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and residency in the state. Unlike the federal EITC program, individuals with a valid ITIN are also eligible to apply. We anticipate around 400,000 individuals will be eligible for the credit.

My team is preparing for program implementation for next year. A huge part of our effort is the communication and outreach to local governments, stakeholders, partners, and community-based organizations around the state to drive awareness and promote the program so eligible individuals know to apply for the credit. The IRS estimates about 21% of eligible filers for the federal EITC do not claim the credit. This is much-needed cash and assistance that these folks are potentially leaving on the table. It is imperative that we do all we can to get the word out about EITC and WFTC so individuals can claim the credits they are entitled to. These tax credits paid to Washington residents will be reinvested within your communities.

To date, the WFTC outreach team has done the following:

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- Launched a new website at WorkingFamiliesCredit.wa.gov that includes important information about the program, an eligibility checker, a partner toolkit with materials and resources, and an opportunity to sign up for key notifications about the program.
- Conducted speaking engagements and attended various events around the state to introduce the program and drive awareness.
- Partnered with the Department of Commerce to award \$10 million in community outreach grants to organizations to promote the WFTC program and provide application assistance.

Perla and I welcome the opportunity to meet with your county officials to share more about the WFTC program and strategize on how we may partner with you to promote WFTC to your residents and communities. We would be happy to attend a council meeting or provide materials that you may include in your county publications, newsletters, or website.

I look forward to hearing back.

Best,
Kevin

Kevin Dixon

Assistant Director | Working Families Tax Credit Division