

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MONEY IN YOUR POCKET OFFERS FREE TAX PREPARATION**

For many in our community, filing income taxes can feel like a burden. Mifflin Juniata Human Services is working to help ease their worries by offering low-and moderate income individuals, families, person with disabilities, and limited speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing tax returns. Income tax refunds give families a springboard for the future by putting their hard-earned money back into their household. It's a simple way to offer a sense of hope.

Money In Your Pocket (MIYP) also known as Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is administered nationally by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). IRS certified volunteers provide basic federal, state, and local income tax return preparation with electronic filing for free to qualified individuals or families. Volunteers are required to adhere to IRS regulations and program standards of conduct. MIYP focuses to secure Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) for qualifying families.

MIYP will operate by appointment only in Mifflin and Juniata County. Sites include First United Methodist Church in Lewistown and Cedar Grove Brethren in Christ Church in Mifflintown. Mifflin County residents under 59 and Juniata County residents of any age earning less than \$55,000 in 2018 may be eligible. Mifflin Juniata Human Services will begin scheduling appointments on January 17, 2019. The program offers flexible daytime, evening, and weekend appointments. Please call 717-320-4872 or email Tammy Swartz at [tswartz@mifflinco.org](mailto:tswartz@mifflinco.org) to secure your income tax appointment.

If you feel comfortable completing your own tax return online, there is also an option for you. If you earned less than \$62,000 in 2018, use [www.MyFreeTaxes.com](http://www.MyFreeTaxes.com) to file your federal and state taxes online for FREE. However, you will have to file your local taxes through your local collection agency.



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