



The Skillman Foundation Presents

YAKTIVITIES FOR HELPING KIDS

Accounting Aid Society

Program Reaches Out to Families with Free Tax Preparation

Tax season has arrived. Parents may hate it, but it can't be escaped.

The good news, however, is that help is available to those who might need it most.

Low- to moderate-income families in Detroit and surrounding communities can turn to Accounting Aid Society for free tax-filing assistance.

The Accounting Aid Society (AAS) was established in 1972 by accountants who wanted to give back to the community.

Over the years, the non-profit AAS has become a regional leader providing tax assistance to low- and moderate-income households — and promoting education and economic self-sufficiency for those families.

The Accounting Aid Society served more than 12,500 low- and moderate-income families in southeast Michigan during the main 2008 tax season — and tax refunds and credits for those families totaled more than \$10.8 million!

Since 1976, more than \$157 million has been returned in tax refunds to low- and moderate-income AAS clients.

From late January to mid-April this year, the Accounting Aid Society will operate 25 tax sites throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb



and Livingston counties. summer tax program; tax support for five pilot Centers for Working Families, and much more.

The Accounting Aid Society provides these resources through collaborations with more than 700 individual partners and 100 community partners. Community partners include educational institutions, foundations, businesses, corporations, other non-profits and government agencies.

More than half of the agency's expenses are donated products and services, including more than 14,000 hours of volunteer service from professionals and others in the community.

Celebrating more than 35 years of service to the community, this non-profit was voted best-managed for 2008 by the respected Crain's Detroit Business newspaper.

Much of its work leads to community initiatives that provide hard-working individuals and families the resources they need to increase their incomes, build savings, acquire assets and break the cycle of poverty.

Accounting Aid Society

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and Livingston counties.

For more information, call 313.647.9620 or visit www.accountingaidsociety.org.

Wealth-Building Tools

In addition to tax-season services, the Detroit-based AAS operates two year-round neighborhood tax centers that link tax help with wealth-building tools, education and resources available to families through community partners.

Among the resources offered are a year-round, low-income tax clinic that provides representation and referrals for clients for whom English is a second language; a

THINK ABOUT FINANCES

Money and family finances get a lot of attention as people prepare to pay state and national income taxes on April 15. But family finances are an important subject all through the year. Learning to handle money well and make good financial decisions can help both students and their parents achieve success in jobs, avoid debt and use credit cards wisely. As a family talk about the things parents and children spend money on, and how those things are paid for. Then talk about different ways to handle money in a good way. Discuss the advantages of making a spending budget that lists the money coming in and the things a family needs to spend on. Talk about saving up for big purchases, or avoiding credit cards that charge big fees each month. What would be the most important thing a person or a family could do to handle money well?



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