# **Calling All Families:**

# It's Never Been More Important to File Your Taxes!

All families with children should file taxes this year, even if they don't normally file—most families are eligible for thousands of dollars from the Child Tax Credit and other benefits!

# **Every family should file taxes this year. Here's why:**

- This year, most families with children are eligible for the Child Tax Credit (CTC).
  - If they received advanced monthly payments, they can receive the second half of their CTC by filing taxes—up to \$1,800 per child 0-5 or \$1,500 per child 6-17.
  - If they did not receive advanced payments, they can receive the full CTC—up to \$3,600 per child 0-5 or \$3,000 per child 6-17.
- Families may also be eligible to receive the recently expanded Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the Child and Dependent Child Tax Credit (CDCTC), or missed stimulus payments.

But to receive these critical benefits, you must file taxes!

#### **How do families file taxes for FREE this year?**

- Visit <u>GetYourRefund.org</u> to file online with the virtual help of IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers. If you prefer, the website can guide you through the steps of filing on your own.
- Find your nearest <u>Volunteer Income Tax Assistance</u> (VITA) site, where an in-person IRS-certified volunteer can assist you with filing your taxes (income must be below \$58,000).
- Visit the IRS's Free File portal, which will guide you through filing your taxes online.
- If you have an ongoing dispute with the IRS over your taxes, locate your nearest <u>Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic</u> (LITC), where a qualified attorney or other tax expert can help.
- Visit <u>ChildTaxCredit.gov</u> to learn more information about receiving the Child Tax Credit.

# What do I need to know about filing taxes this year?

- If you received **IRS Letter 6419**, which tells how much you've received from the Child Tax Credit in 2021, hold onto it! You'll use it when you file.
- But if you did not receive the letter, don't worry—you can still file! Simply enter the total amount you've received for the advance Child Tax Credit payments into your tax return. You can also check how much you've received by checking your bank account statements or going to your <a href="IRS Online Account">IRS Online Account</a>.

# File your taxes ASAP!

- Filing earlier is better than later—tax return delays are expected.
- If you have a bank account, select direct deposit for your tax return—your tax return will likely come faster via direct deposit.