

Extra Credit Campaign Launch

Press Briefing
Orlando, Florida
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Remarks by David A. Odahowski, President
Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation

Orange County and Orlando is a community that is not only made *for* families but made up *of* families. That is why the Extra Credit Project, funded by Orange County, the City of Orlando, and the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation, with organizational and leadership support from the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce, has the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation's support. Your local governments, businesses, and community based organizations are seeking to strengthen the finances of families through the Extra Credit program. So next time you get good service at a restaurant, or you get help at the grocery store, or you get that morning cup of coffee at the local coffee shop, be sure to tip your server and give him or her an extra tip about the Extra Credit Program and the Earned Income Tax Credit.

The Extra Credit Program is unique because it is the only business-lead prosperity program in the County. You know that when you want to reach employees, the workplace is the best place to go. In 2006, the Earned Credit Campaign contacted 1,158 employers, representing 658,000 employees, through print media, an award winning website, a unique partnership with the 211 Help Line, our friends at Orange TV, and good old fashioned informational sessions we like to call Refund Roundups!

I want to thank the Internal Revenue Service and all our Voluntary Income Tax Assistance programs. Today is National Earned Income Tax Credit Day. The Internal Revenue Service would like us to highlight four important messages today:

1. Promote the Earned Income Tax Credit
2. Inform the community about free income tax preparation
3. Raise the awareness about the one time telephone tax refund
4. Share information about the split refund availability

Let me conclude by thanking Orange County, the City of Orlando, the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation, and the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce. Let me also thank Lynx, AARP, In-Charge, the Internal Revenue Services and all of the volunteers.