NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Linda Eddy leddy@dutchesscap.org (845) 475-7500 www.hv-cash.org For Immediate Release

Hudson Valley CA\$H Coalition and AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Seeking Volunteers for Upcoming Tax Season

HUDSON VALLEY, NY – In an annual collaboration, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is partnering with the Hudson Valley CA\$H Coalition to deliver cost-free tax preparation services for eligible residents of Dutchess, Orange, and Putnam counties. This initiative primarily caters to seniors and low-to-moderate income households, providing an accessible and affordable solution for tax filing.

As the 2024 tax season approaches, both the Hudson Valley CA\$H Coalition and AARP Foundation Tax-Aide are actively recruiting volunteers to support this valuable community service. Free training sessions are providing during the fall 2023 and early winter 2024. If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please reach out to Linda Eddy at <u>leddy@dutchesscap.org</u> or call 845-475-7500.

"The CASH program is invaluable to our community," said Melissa Clark, Vice President of Community Impact at United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region. "The volunteers pour their heart and soul into their work, ensuring over 5,000 local households receive their refund. CASH Volunteers are dedicated, giving of their time and lift up the financial stability of their neighbors."

Last year alone, the program assisted 5,827 residents, resulting in over \$4 million in tax refunds and credits benefiting families and individuals within the community while saving almost \$1.7 million in tax preparation fees.

There is a wide array of volunteer opportunities available, catering to various skills and interests. A background in accounting or finance is not a prerequisite for volunteering; administrative and support roles such as tax site greeters, program marketing, and appointment support are also available for those who prefer non-mathematical assignments.

Individuals with computer proficiency and a genuine desire to assist others are strongly encouraged to join the volunteer team. Prior experience with filing taxes is advantageous, but not mandatory. Tax volunteer classes will provide comprehensive training and culminate in IRS certification upon successful completion. It is worth noting that the Hudson Valley CA\$H Coalition is actively seeking bilingual volunteers to better serve Spanish-speaking clients.

For further details on volunteering, please contact Linda Eddy at 845-475-7500 or <u>leddy@dutchesscap.org</u>, or visit <u>www.hv-cash.org</u>.

#

About Hudson Valley CA\$H Coalition

The Hudson Valley CA\$H Coalition is a collaborative effort between AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County, United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region, and 13 other community partners. Together, they aim to provide vital services to residents in the Mid-Hudson region, including free tax preparation assistance to eligible individuals and families.

###