



Money is an important tool.

It empowers people with resources so they can create the life they want. SDC offers financial programs to help residents move beyond poverty.

## **Financial Coaching**

Financial coaching helps low-income families move from poverty toward self-sufficiency and economic security. Efforts are designed to help participants set goals, acquire knowledge, modify behaviors, and take actions that contribute to improved financial status and long-term stability. SDC provides one-on-one financial coaching, classes and workshops to help individuals build assets and improve credit.





## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)

For more than 19 years, the Social Development Commission (SDC) has operated the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA). It targets households with an income of \$60,000 a year or less.

VITA helps taxpayers who aren't always properly equipped to file tax returns. IRS-certified staff and volunteers help taxpayers navigate the complicated filing process and get the maximum refund and credit taxpayers are eligible to receive.

By helping taxpayers access refundable credits such as the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC), SDC promotes financial stability and asset building in the community.

Research shows that the EITC lifts more children out of poverty than any federal program. According to the IRS, 25% of taxpayers who qualify for the EITC don't apply for it.

VITA is more than a free tax service. It also provides families with a financial boost to promote saving. VITA links interested customers to financial institutions at SDC "Super Site" locations. At Super Site locations, financial institutions, which include banks and credit unions, provide information on the benefits of checking and savings accounts and open accounts on the spot. They also provide consultation to help customers eventually purchase a home, start a business or save for retirement.

*Empowering Milwaukee County residents with the resources to move beyond poverty.*

### Financial Services Supporters



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