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## Free Tax Preparation Assistance Available

By: Erin Ulibarri, MPH

April 15 may seem far off, but tax day will be here before you know it. Now is the time to prepare for and complete your tax forms. You do not have to tackle your tax return all alone. Help is available.

Many sites in Orange County began offering free assistance on February 1, 2010. Trained and professional volunteers are available to help you, face-to-face, with completing simple tax returns. Appointments are required at most of the sites and are available until April 15 on certain days and times during the week. This service is for those over 60 years old with low or middle incomes. Some sites also offer assistance in languages other than English.

The Office on Aging has a comprehensive listing of these sites, including the dates and times of operation. Call the Information and Assistance Line at **1-800-510-2020** or **1-714-567-7500** and the friendly and caring specialists will connect you to the nearest location to meet your specific need.

For your scheduled appointment, the IRS reminds you to bring the following items:

1. Photo ID
2. Social Security number
3. All W-2 and 1099 forms
4. Bank information (statements, route numbers, and account numbers)
5. Copy of last year's federal and state returns, if available
6. Any other information about income and expenses, including itemized deduction receipts

The Office on Aging Information and Assistance Specialists also have information on all programs and services for older adults in Orange County, including in-home assistance, transportation, health education, caregiver support, counseling, residential facilities, meal programs, health insurance, services for the disabled, ethnic services, exercise classes and much more! Remember **(800) 510-2020** or **(714) 567-7500** – your gateway to assistance.