



For Release: February 1, 2019

City of Charleston partners with SC Thrive to provide free tax clinics

Charleston, S.C.-- The average South Carolina tax filer pays \$273 to file their state and federal taxes. For many families, that price is just too high. That is why the City of Charleston is partnering with SC Thrive to offer five free tax clinics at City of Charleston Recreation facilities, beginning in February.

At the clinics, eligible citizens--with an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) less than \$65,000, \$95,000 if filing status is married filing jointly--can file their South Carolina State and Federal Taxes quickly, easily and at no cost. Trained SC Thrive Tax Counselors will help ensure those who are eligible learn how to claim federal and state tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit.

The following clinics will be available at City of Charleston recreation facilities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in a drop-in, first-come-first-served format:

- Saturday, Feb. 16 at James Island Recreation Complex, 1088 Quail Drive
- Saturday, Feb. 23 at Bees Landing Recreation Center, 1580 Ashley Gardens Boulevard
- Saturday, March 2 at Arthur Christopher Community Center, 265 Fishburne Street
- Saturday, March 9 at Forest Park Playground, 780 Playground Road
- Saturday, March 30 at St. Julian Devine Community Center, 1 Cooper Street

Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg said, “We are happy to partner with SC Thrive to offer our citizens this free service. Filing taxes can be an expensive and overwhelming undertaking for many, and these clinics will help reduce the cost to our residents and make sure they are receiving the refunds and credits they’ve earned.”

In 2018, SC Thrive helped process almost 3,000 tax returns in the tri-county area, bringing back over \$2.3 million directly to the community.

SC Thrive is a statewide nonprofit offering solutions to South Carolinians in need of accessing resources but facing a multitude of barriers. With several online services, training programs and strategic partnerships with organizations like Trident United Way and the City of Charleston, SC Thrive helps simplify complex processes and gives people easier access to needed resources so they can move towards stability.

Those interested in learning more about SC Thrive or filing their taxes for free can visit their website at scthrive.org/filetaxes or social media sites on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Beth Shaull, PR Manager, SC Thrive, bshaull@scthrive.org, 803-587-0255

Jack O’Toole, Director of Communications, City of Charleston, otoolej@charleston-sc.gov, 843-518-3228