



Center for Economic Progress  
 29 E. Madison, Suite 910  
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[www.centerforprogress.org](http://www.centerforprogress.org)

# CENTER FOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS

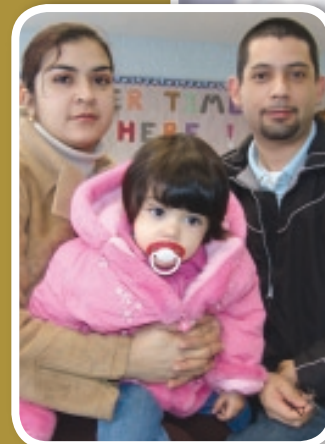
## Encouraging self-sufficiency and promoting economic prosperity.

The Center for Economic Progress encourages financial stability and helps build the assets of thousands of working families each year. As a front-line service provider, advocate and community educator with a presence in more than thirty Illinois communities, the Center's programs and services impact tens of thousands of families each year, providing resources for a brighter future.

The Center's services, and the financial resources they generate, help families budget for unforeseen expenses, pay their bills on time, save to send a child to college and plan for retirement.

The Center for Economic Progress was established in 1990 to increase economic opportunities for low-income families, children, and individuals by improving access to public, private, and non-profit programs and services. The Center has distinguished itself as a local and national leader through its innovative programs and partnerships.

For more information about the Center for Economic Progress, visit our website at [www.centerforprogress.org](http://www.centerforprogress.org).



**Tax Counseling Project**

**Midwest Tax Clinic**

**Tax Training Programs**

**National Community Tax Coalition**

**Financial & Community Education**

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## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### TAX COUNSELING PROJECT

The Tax Counseling Project is a national leader in providing free tax preparation services. By ensuring that working families receive all credits and benefits available, the Project is boosting incomes and building assets across Illinois. Established in 1994, the Project has assisted more than 130,000 families with fast, free and electronic tax preparation, returning over \$157 million in tax refunds.

### MIDWEST TAX CLINIC

The Midwest Tax Clinic helps working families and individuals resolve federal and state income tax problems, correct costly mistakes, and ensure that they obtain the correct tax refund. The Clinic also works with immigrants to help them file their first tax returns and apply for Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs).

### FINANCIAL AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The Center's Financial Education program provides financial literacy classes at convenient neighborhood locations throughout Chicago. Partnering with dozens of banks and credit unions, the Center has helped 2,650 consumers open bank accounts since 2001. In addition, the Center's Community Education program provides families with guidance and support, helping them navigate today's complex financial services marketplace.

### TAX TRAINING PROGRAMS

The Family Child Care Tax Project serves home-based child care providers with a range of classes in English and Spanish on business planning and tax issues. The Center also offers the Foster and Adoptive Parent Tax Project, which is the nation's only training and technical assistance program on tax benefits for foster and adoptive parents.

### NATIONAL COMMUNITY TAX COALITION

Established in 2000, the National Community Tax Coalition has brought together hundreds of individuals and partner organizations to develop, implement and replicate models for connecting working families to financial opportunities through the tax code. The Coalition serves as an important voice on low-income tax policy.



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