

# How You Can Help

FESP depends on the collective involvement of the community to help individuals and families build assets and contribute to our local economy. You can:

- Recruit volunteers to become tax preparers, greeters or translators at VITA sites
- Provide space for tax preparation or other FESP activities
- Assist in outreach efforts or notify eligible employees about free tax assistance and other asset development services
- Incorporate financial education efforts into standard operations
- Support FESP through financial and in-kind donations



## FESP Coordinating Council Members

AARP; Supervisor Bonilla's Office; Community Financial Resources; Community Housing Development Corporation of North Richmond; Contra Costa County Administrator's Office; Contra Costa County Employment & Human Services Department, Community Services and Workforce Services Bureaus, EASTBAY Works, and the Service Integration Program; Contra Costa Health Services Department; Contra Costa Housing Authority; Diablo Valley College; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC); First 5 Contra Costa; Internal Revenue Service; Opportunity Junction; United Way of the Bay Area; Workforce Development Board; Y&H Soda Foundation

FESP's EKS program is operated by the Community Housing Development Corporation of North Richmond (CHDC) in collaboration with community agencies.

First 5 Contra Costa provides staffing support for FESP.

**For more information, please contact:**

CHDC (510) 412-9290  
First 5 Contra Costa (925) 771-7300

# Family Economic Security Partnership

A public, private, and nonprofit collaborative dedicated to increasing the income and building the assets of low-income families and individuals living in Contra Costa County.



## About the Family Economic Security Partnership (FESP)

Even with steady jobs, many hard-working individuals struggle to support themselves and their families. A growing body of research shows that financially secure families are more able to weather economic crises, maintain employment and upgrade their job skills, provide for their children's health and well-being, and invest in their communities.

Contra Costa's Family Economic Security Partnership was formed in 2003 to address these issues and help our county's low-income workers achieve long-term financial security.



## Current FESP Projects

### Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Campaign

Contra Costa's Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Campaign (EKS) is part of a regional effort that provides free tax assistance to low-income workers and helps them to receive their full tax refunds and credits.

FESP supports several Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites staffed by trained volunteers.

Since 2004, FESP has helped file more than 9,000 tax returns totaling over \$11 million in refunds. A new partnership with AARP tax assistance sites tripled the amount of returns in Contra Costa in 2008.



**Earn It! Keep It! Save It!**



### Financial Education

FESP's financial education campaign is designed to help people save, build, and keep assets. Using a wide range of financial education strategies, FESP and its community partners provide information on:

- Debt and/or credit counseling
- Banking
- Job training
- Home ownership
- Planning for education
- Small business ownership

