

THE BENEFITS OF FILING YOUR TAXES

While the term *taxes* can spark anxiety for some, there are many positive reasons to file your taxes that can create less stress and anxiety for you and your family in the future. Here are just a few:

- 1) **FREE tax assistance is available for families who meet the criteria (see the chart below)*:** FCSS offers FREE assistance with tax returns to individuals, families, and seniors with modest income and simple tax situations.
Call or text Cindy Lauwen at (403) 915-7063 to make an appointment.
For services in Low German, contact Susie Peters at (403) 593-0618 (Whats App supported).
 - a. When you file your taxes with FCSS, you can also learn about our other services including free counselling, family supports, child and youth programs, volunteer opportunities and many more!
- 2) **You may be eligible for a refund:** This means more money in your pocket for things like groceries and housing for your family or you can put it in a bank account and save it for a rainy day.
- 3) **You can access additional benefits if you file your taxes on time:** The Canada Child Benefit, Old Age Security, Working Income Tax Benefit, Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), and GST/HST credit are only available to families and individuals who file their taxes. This can add up to thousands of dollars of additional income for families struggling to make ends meet.
- 4) **It contributes to building your community, province, and nation:** Taxes help grow your community's infrastructure, including roads, internet connectivity, public transit, and drinking water.
- 5) **You can file online to get your return quickly:** FCSS's volunteers will ask you if you consent to an online return and will file your taxes electronically so you can receive your refund without delay.

*Tax Return Assistance Income Criteria

| Family Size | Total Family Income |
|---------------------|---|
| 1 person | \$35,000 |
| 2 persons | \$45,000 |
| 3 persons | \$47,500 |
| 4 persons | \$50,000 |
| 5 persons | \$52,500 |
| More than 5 persons | \$52,500 (Plus \$2,500 for each additional person) |

Cindy Lauwen is the Volunteer Services Coordinator at FCSS and provides support to seniors. For more information, contact her at cindy.lauwen@fcss.ca or 403-915-7063.

Visit www.fcss.ca for more information.

Submitted by:
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