



CATAWBA COUNTY

P.O. BOX 669 Newton, North Carolina 28658-0669 (828) 695-5600

Department of Social Services

PRESS RELEASE/PSA

Thursday, February 21, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Valerie Huffman at (828) 695-5749 or vhuffman@catawbacountync.gov

Free Tax Preparation for Low Income Families

Every year in the Catawba Valley, many local families lose up to a third of their tax return using expensive tax preparation services and filing for rapid refunds. If your family income is less than \$35,000, you may qualify for free tax preparation services through Catawba Tax Link.

Other qualifications for Tax Link services include; that all income must have been earned in North Carolina and that none of the income can be from self-employment or capital gains. For couples filing joint returns, both people must be present.

Services are available by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling Catawba County Social Services at (828) 695-5621. Customers should bring with them; a valid photo ID, all W-2s and 1099 forms, Social Security card or Tax Identification Number, a copy of last year's return, and your bank routing number if you plan to use direct deposit. Tax Link is located at the CVCC JobLink Career Center.

Catawba Tax Link is now in its fourth year of operation. Initially, the all-volunteer group consisted of volunteers from Catawba County Social Services and staff/students at Lenoir-Rhyne College and Catawba Valley Community College. Today, the volunteer group has expanded to include employees and retirees from several branches of Catawba County government.

To make an appointment for Tax Link, contact Social Services at (828) 695-5621.

###