

## About CA\$H Maine

CA\$H Maine is a statewide collaboration of nine coalitions, composed of 50 non- and for-profit partners, working together to help empower Maine individuals and families to achieve long-term financial stability. Since 2003, CA\$H Maine has offered free tax preparation to qualified filers during the tax season and educated hard-working families and individuals about programs in the community that can help them meet their financial needs and reach their financial goals. Through its partnerships and website, CA\$H Maine is a year-round resource, providing outreach and education about ways Maine people can make the most of their money.

*“As a new single parent, I have the expenses of diapers, daycare, food, snacks, toys, and anything [Tyson] needs. It’s tight on a single income. [Getting the CTC] felt like a huge relief. Not only was I able to take a breath and have extra money, but I could also purchase extra food and put some away. It was just a helping hand reaching out.”* Cassandra Fraser, Western Maine CA\$H tax filer



## CA\$H Maine 2003 - 2022 Highlights

- Filed **more than 60,000** federal and state tax returns.
- Helped clients claim **over \$90 million** worth of federal tax refunds including **over \$30 million** in EITC.
- Saved tax filers **nearly \$11 million** in tax preparation fees.\*

## CA\$H Maine’s 2022 Impact

- Served **4,522 Maine households**. Total returns include 3,371 e-filed returns, 86 paper returns, 89 prior year returns, 193 returns done through MyFreeTaxes, and 783 state only returns (PTFC and STFC) as of 4/19/2022.
- Generated **over \$5 million** in federal income tax refunds, including **over \$1.5 million** in EITC refunds.
- Saved clients **an estimated \$795,872** in income tax return filing fees.\*
- Trained and managed **over 250 volunteers** who served as schedulers, greeters, intake aides, tax preparers, Opportunity Guides, site coordinators, and special event volunteers.

\*According to the National Society of Accountants, the average cost of preparing a basic tax return with no itemized deductions is \$176.



CA\$H Maine volunteers are the backbone of our programs. We are grateful that they share their time and talents with us in service of our community members and neighbors.

*“It is very rewarding to have the chance to work with individuals and families so that they pay only what is due on their taxes. I love having the opportunity to help people increase their financial resources, which also keeps that money within our community.”*

Barbara Covey, volunteer tax preparer with Central Maine CA\$H

## Helping Meet Financial Needs and Reach Financial Goals

- Encourage tax filers to save their refunds. 69% of CA\$H Maine tax filers expecting to receive a refund reported planning to save all or some of their refund in tax season 2022.
- Provide information to tax filers about the following financial goals: purchasing or repairing a home, buying or repairing a car, earning more money, paying down debt, saving for retirement, and investing in education for my children or myself.
- Assist tax filers in meeting the following financial challenges: unexpected expenses, saving for retirement, paying bills, heating assistance, paying medical bills, reliable transportation, affordable housing, food insecurity, repaying student loans, and affordable childcare.

## Maine Inflation Relief Payments

Between 4/20/2022 and 10/31/2022, CA\$H Maine partners assisted qualified Maine residents in filing a Maine tax return to receive the \$850 Inflation Relief Payment. Nearly all of the Mainers that we assisted also qualified for the Property Tax Fairness and/or the Sales Tax Fairness Credit and a few are also filing a federal return and receiving the Child Tax Credit providing them with additional funds above the \$850 relief payment. CA\$H Maine helped nearly 7,000 households receive the Inflation Relief Payment and also received nearly \$2 million from Property Tax and Sales Tax Fairness Credits.

FIND US ONLINE AT [CASHMAINE.ORG](https://www.cashmaine.org)

Aroostook County CA\$H, Central Maine CA\$H, Eastern Maine CA\$H, CA\$H Greater Portland, Lewiston/Auburn CA\$H, Midcoast CA\$H, Wabanaki CA\$H, Western Maine CA\$H, & York County CA\$H