

TO: Juvenile Welfare Board Members

FROM: James E. Mills, Executive Director  
Kathy Helmuth, Director of Communications



**Earned Income Credit**

This marks the eleventh year that the Juvenile Welfare Board has joined the Washington, D.C.-based Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in spreading the word on the EIC (Earned Income Credit). The EIC is a special tax benefit for working families who may be eligible for up to \$3,816. The main focus of the campaign is to alert qualified families, who may receive the EIC as a result of filing an income tax return, or arranging with employers to receive the credit during the year.

Information was mailed the end of January and included child care centers and family day care homes, schools, houses of worship, human service agencies, and outlets with potentially high pedestrian traffic volume. As with the past few years, emphasis was placed on reaching the business community (Attachment 1). Additionally, the county's chambers of commerce and city halls were included. Approximately 51,000 pieces of collateral material --- flyers (Attachment 2), fact sheets, envelope stuffers --- were sent along with letters to a mailing of more than 4,500. Special efforts again included reaching the Hispanic and Asian communities. Information in Spanish, Cambodian, Laotian, Vietnamese, Hmong, Chinese, and Bosnian were sent to businesses and organizations catering to these ethnic groups.

Assisting the Juvenile Welfare Board in this year's campaign was Coordinated Child Care of Pinellas, Inc., Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes, and United Way of Pinellas County.

**THE 2000  
EARNED  
INCOME  
CREDIT  
CAMPAIGN**

January, 2000

Dear Colleague:

**Sponsors:**

Coordinated Child Care of  
Pinellas, Inc.

Juvenile Welfare Board of  
Pinellas County

Pinellas County License Board  
for Children's Centers and  
Family Day Care Homes

United Way of Pinellas  
County

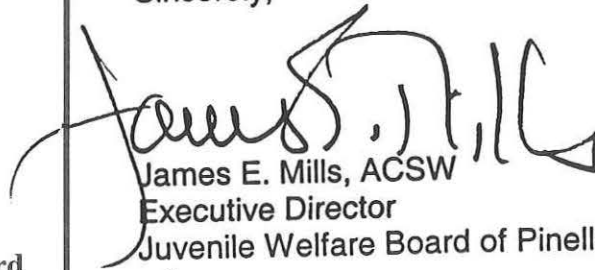
As a Pinellas County business leader, you have an opportunity to pass along some very valuable information to your employees that boosts the effective return they receive for their work, while generating revenues for our local economy. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EIC) helps working families, including very low-income workers without children.

What does EIC do for our area's employees and employers? It **supplements wages at no cost to you**, while giving people **more disposable income** to pay bills as well as purchase goods and services.

Enclosed is a flier, fact sheet and payroll stuffer. The flier and fact sheet can be displayed in an employee information center or break room. We encourage you to copy the payroll stuffer for each employee and include it with their paychecks. *(Materials are available in Spanish, several Asian and other languages as well.)*

If you have questions or want any materials in another language, please contact Kathy Helmuth at the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, 727-547-5677. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this project, which is certain to benefit many families in Pinellas.

Sincerely,



James E. Mills, ACSW  
Executive Director  
Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County

**Juvenile Welfare Board  
of Pinellas County**

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Pinellas Park, Florida 33781-5060

**Phone:** (727) 547-5600

**Fax:** (727) 547-5610

<http://www.jwbpinellas.org>

# Give Your Paycheck a Boost!



For information about how you can get the Earned Income Credit and free help filing your taxes, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040.

**Avoid refund delays!** Be sure to provide the correct name and Social Security number for each person listed on your tax return.

## Claim Your Earned Income Credit

**Get more from your regular paycheck!** The Earned Income Credit (EIC) is a special tax benefit for people who work full- or part-time. If you qualify, you'll owe less in taxes, and you may get cash back. Even if you don't owe income tax you can get the credit. But, you must file a federal tax return.

## Who can get the Earned Income Credit?

- Single or married workers who were raising children in their homes and who earned less than \$30,580 in 1999 can receive an EIC up to \$3,816 (or less than \$26,928 if they were raising only one child). File form 1040 or 1040A, and attach Schedule EIC.
- Single or married workers at least age 25 and under age 65, who were not raising children in their homes, and who earned less than \$10,200 in 1999. File any tax form.

**The EIC Advance Payment** option allows some workers who are raising children to get part of their EIC in their paychecks throughout the year and part in a check from the IRS after they file their tax return. Your EIC can help pay household bills and the cost of getting to work. A worker can get up to \$50 extra in each bi-weekly paycheck.

**To get EIC Advance Payments**, eligible workers give a Form W-5 to their employer. You can get the W-5 from your employer, or by calling the IRS at 1-800-TAX-FORM. Workers whose income or family circumstances change can become ineligible. They should stop taking EIC Advance Payments by providing their employer a new W-5 form marked "no".

