PROSPERITY NOW COMMUNITY

TAXPAYER OPPORTUNITY NETWORK

Prosperity Now’s Taxpayer Opportunity Network (TON) connects, strengthens and inspires community tax programs so that they can more effectively and efficiently deliver critical tax assistance to low- and moderate-income (LMI) taxpayers, couple that assistance with complementary financial capability services, and advocate for fairer tax policy in the United States. TON has now celebrated the completion of its third successful tax season, rapid growth in membership and engagement and several important policy wins to celebrate and build on. The Network includes more than 3,500 practitioners from over 900 VITA organizations, making it the fastest-growing learning and advocacy network for taxpayer assistance practitioners.

The Taxpayer Opportunity Network is working on a four-part charge:

1. Advancing a more equitable tax code and safer tax preparation industry.
2. Increasing the financial security of LMI taxpayers through cost-saving on return preparation and improved access to financial capability/savings products and services.
3. Positioning and supporting VITA as a critical resource to ensure LMI taxpayers are in compliance, particularly as IRS services decrease.
4. Cultivating more sustainable and connected VITA programs.

Membership in the Taxpayer Opportunity Network is free, and benefits include:

- Priority access to Tax Prep Dispatch, which provides easy-to-understand explanations, real-world examples and practical advice for tax practitioners tailored to the needs of the field.
- In-depth opportunities to learn from others in the Network. The Network offers webinars, peer learning groups and working groups on a range of topics based on the interests and needs of members. Members gain access to recordings of previous learning opportunities and exclusive invitations to participate in live events.
- Access to essential resources in the Network’s resource library.
- Opportunities to influence the IRS. IRS-SPEC needs to hear from tax practitioners to better meet the needs of the communities they serve, so members are asked to provide input directly to the IRS on key issues.
- Opportunities to advocate for the communities you serve. The Taxpayer Opportunity Network has a comprehensive policy agenda to improve the community tax field and to make the tax code work better for low-income Americans. Network members regularly weigh in on federal policies, meet with policymakers at all levels of government, and learn from peers about successful policy advocacy strategies.

To learn more, visit http://prosperitynow.org/get-involved/taxpayer-opportunity-network/.