

WORKSHOP 9: SUMMARY

In this section, we learned how to file an income tax return and several resources for doing so. First, we recognized that taxes can be a source of stress, anxiety, and shame for many of us and learning new tips and resources can help reduce this stress.

Next, we learned why we file taxes and some of the government services our tax dollars provide. We learned about the three main categories of taxes and the differences between state and federal income taxes.

Next, we explored several common tax forms and tax terms that come up when doing your federal and state taxes. Then, we went through the basic steps to file an income tax return and learned about some helpful resources for filing, such as VITA, TCE, and IRS Free File. We also learned about tax deductions and credits to save you money and when to itemize or standardize your deductions.

Next, we learned about why we might end up owing the IRS in taxes and identified different payment options. Lastly, we learned about tax deadlines, tax extensions, and how costly back taxes can be.