

# Living Boldly

News and notes brought to you by the  
DC Department of Aging and Community Living

Volume 3

Issue 2

A Newsletter for DC Seniors

February 2023



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

*By Muriel Bowser, Mayor  
District of Columbia*

Dear Seniors,

First, I want to thank you for your trust and support. On January 2, I followed in the footsteps of our Mayor for Life, Marion Barry, and took the oath of office for a third time. It is the honor of my life to serve as the mayor of my hometown and I look forward to all we can accomplish in the next four years, together.

The District is now entering budget season, and seniors are an important voice in the process. As you know, every year, I make it a priority to gather input from the community – before we submit the budget to the Council – about the investments you want to see us make. In previous years, we've taken your ideas and turned them into solutions, programs, and investments that have helped us build a more inclusive Washington, DC. Together, we have expanded Safe At Home, provided more property tax relief for our seniors, and distributed new technology to seniors to help people stay connected to friends, family, and doctors.

Last year, we also created a \$40 million package of legacy initiatives to keep more longtime Washingtonians in DC. To do this, we are putting homeownership in reach for more Black residents; providing legal support so that families can pass on property from one generation to the next; and making it easier for Washingtonians to open and expand small businesses in DC by buying commercial property in our city.

The input of residents at our Budget Engagement Forums helped shape all of these investments. Now, it is time to start providing input for our next budget. On Wednesday, February 8, we will host our Senior Budget Engagement Forum and I urge you to join us. Information will be posted on [budget.dc.gov](http://budget.dc.gov) about how residents can participate. With the support of residents like you, we will continue to create a more Age-Friendly DC and help all seniors live boldly in our great city.

Sincerely,

Muriel Bowser  
Mayor

## Become the Next Ms. Senior DC!



Are you a DC resident age 60 or older interested in representing your peers as Ms. Senior DC 2023?

Are you actively involved in your community?

Consider becoming a contestant in the  
Ms. Senior DC Pageant 2023.

Apply to be a contestant today!

Visit [bit.ly/SeniorDCpageant](http://bit.ly/SeniorDCpageant) for more information.

**Applications due by Friday, March, 17, 2023**

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# Mayor Bowser Kicks Off Tax Season by Highlighting Resources for District Residents to Put Money Back in Their Pockets

On Monday, January 23, Mayor Muriel Bowser and the DC Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking (DISB) kicked off the 2023 tax season by telling residents about tax credits and incentives that can put money back in their pockets, including the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the District of Columbia Keep Child Care Affordable Tax Credit, and the Senior Citizen/Disabled Property Tax Relief program. The Mayor also spoke about the free tax preparation services available in the District.

During the event, Mayor Bowser highlighted the following resources available to residents:

## Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (Federal EITC)

The federal earned income tax credit (federal EITC) provides money back for people who work and who have a low or moderate income – generally individuals and families making less than \$60,000. Through the feder-

al EITC, residents can get back anywhere between \$560 to \$7,000, depending on the size of the family. To learn more visit: [irs.gov/eitc](https://irs.gov/eitc).

## DC's Earned Income Tax Credit (DC EITC)

The District Earned Income Tax Credit (DC EITC) is a refundable credit for low- and moderate-income workers, separate from the federal EITC. The DC EITC is based on a percentage of the amount of the federal EITC reported on an individual's federal income tax return. In past years, the amount of the DC credit was 40% of the amount of the federal EITC. This percentage has been increased to 70% for tax year 2022, one of the highest match rates in the country. To learn more visit: [disb.dc.gov/eitc](https://disb.dc.gov/eitc).

## District of Columbia Keep Child Care Affordable Tax Credit

Mayor Bowser created the Keep Child Care Affordable Tax Credit to make child care more affordable

for District families. The credit is available to taxpayers based on the amount of eligible child care expenses paid by the taxpayer per eligible child. Last year, the amount of the Keep Child Care Affordable Tax Credit was a maximum of \$1,020 per eligible child. To learn more visit: [MyTax.dc.gov](http://MyTax.dc.gov).

## Disabled or Senior Citizen Property Tax Relief

District of Columbia property owners may be eligible for property tax relief. The District offers several programs to assist property owners, first time homebuyers, and senior citizens. For example, the Senior Citizen Tax Relief Program applies to those property owners who occupy their property as their principal place of residence, are 65 years of age or older, and meet certain income requirements. When a property owner turns 65 years of age or older, or when he or she is disabled, he or she

may file an application immediately for disabled or senior citizen property tax relief. This benefit reduces a qualified property owner's property tax by 50%. To learn more visit: [MyTax.dc.gov](http://MyTax.dc.gov).

## DC Free Tax Preparation Locations and Financial Assistance

- Free tax clinics are open to all residents. To view the complete list, visit: [disb.dc.gov/freetax-prepresources](https://disb.dc.gov/freetax-prepresources).
- The AARP is partnering with DC to support seniors, which includes free tax assistance. To learn more, visit: [taxaide.aarpfoundation.org](https://taxaide.aarpfoundation.org).

Residents can also use DC's Financially Fit Program to learn more about how best to regulate their financial health. To learn more about the Financially Fit DC program visit: [financiallyfitdc.com](http://financiallyfitdc.com).

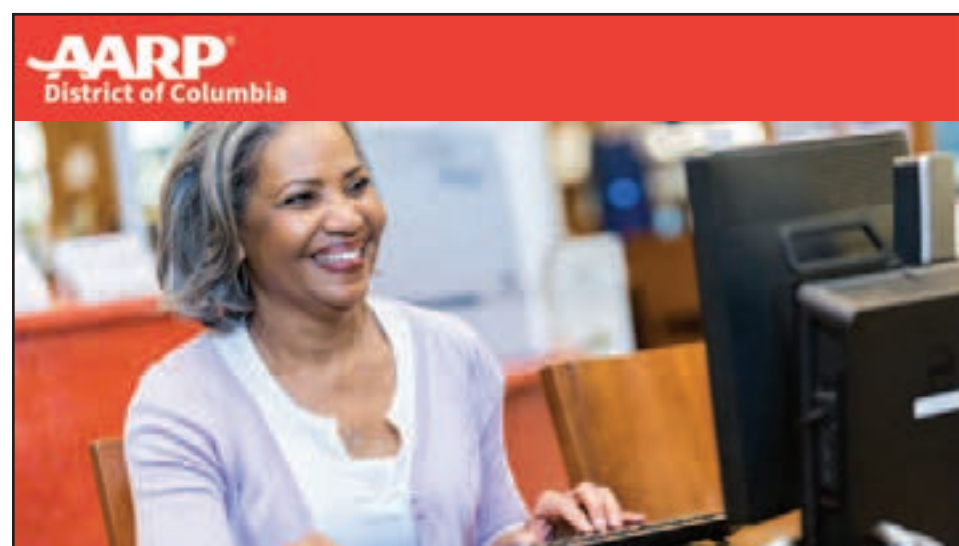
## DACL's 7th Annual Cupid's Kids Initiative is Underway!

For the 7th year in a row, the DC Department of Aging and Community Living is partnering up with DC Public Schools and Charter Schools to create handmade Valentine's Day cards for homebound seniors. If you or someone you know would like to receive a card, please contact our office at 202-724-5626.



## Interim Director Jessica Smith Honors 12 Carroll Manor Centenarians

Last month, Interim Director Jessica Smith visited Carroll Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to honor 12 of our city's oldest residents, all celebrating 100 years or more in age. Congratulations to these seniors for reaching such incredible milestones!



# DC AARP Tax-Aide Information Session

## It is tax season! Do you need assistance?

Join AARP DC and AARP Foundation for a virtual session about the resources provided by Tax-Aide for District of Columbia residents. This session will provide general information regarding the available resources. Individual tax assistance will not be provided during the webinar.

The information session will provide an overview of the following:

- 2023 tax preparation service offerings
- Preparation locations, virtual options, and self-service tools
- Important tax filing documents
- Filing deadlines
- Q&A

**Thursday, February 9, 2023**  
**11:00am - Noon**

Zoom link provided upon registration

**Register here:**  
<https://events.aarp.org/Tax-Aide2023>