

# CCI joins coalition to provide free tax preparation

Catholic Charities of Idaho, along with several other public and private agencies, is making free tax preparation available in the Treasure Valley through the Coalition for Economic Improvement in Idaho starting Jan. 17.

Volunteers will work at tax preparation sites in Ada or Canyon counties from mid-January through the end of April. Treasure Valley residents will be able to get free tax return preparation and information on Earned Income Credit at one of two locations: 8595 Franklin, Boise (the entrance is behind the Big Lots store), or Karcher Mall, Nampa.

Services will be available in English and Spanish at both sites. Catholic Charities is recruiting volunteers

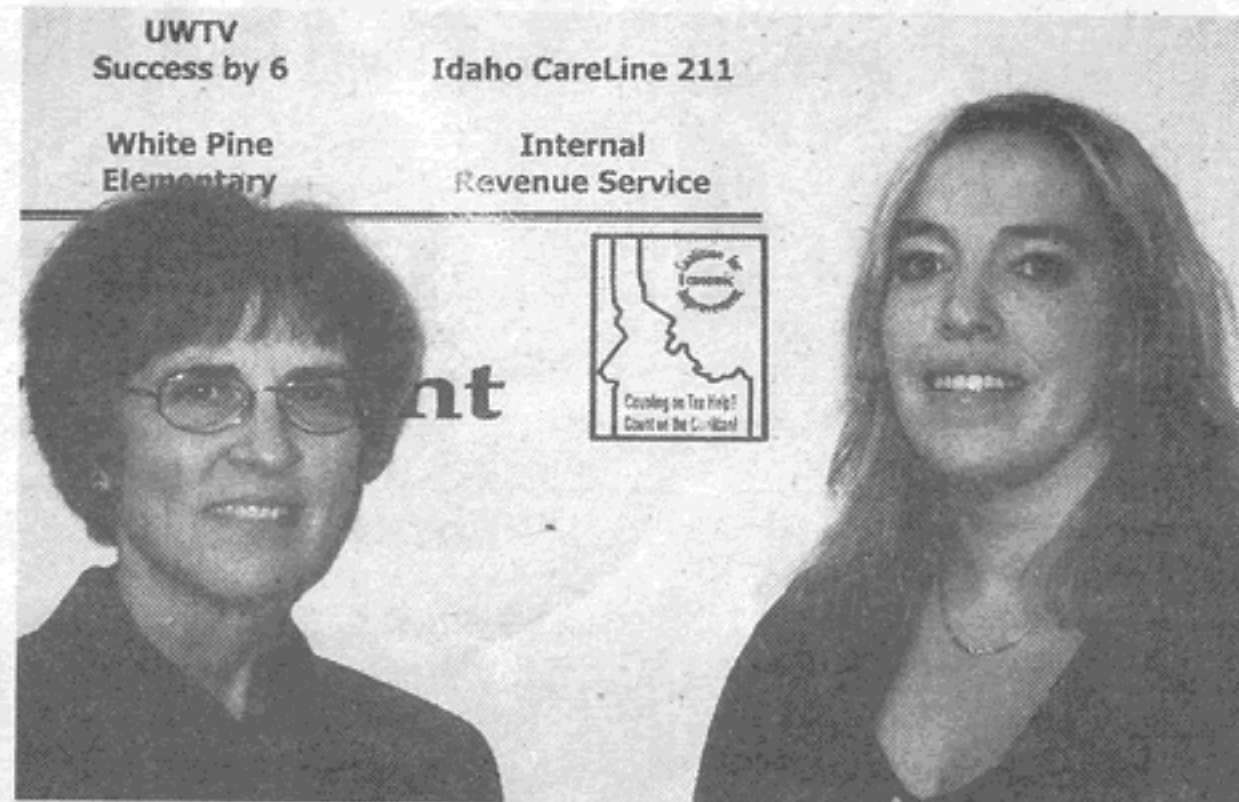
interested in providing child care at the sites while parents are working on their tax preparation. Anyone who would like to help with child care can call Marcia Munden at Catholic Charities of Idaho, 345-6031.

Services will be available Monday through Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Extended hours will start Jan. 24. Both tax preparation sites will be open Monday through Thursday 1 to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be no tax preparation available on Fridays at either location.

The Coalition for Economic Improvement in Idaho is made up of representatives from Community Action Partnership Association of

Idaho, Wells Fargo Bank, Catholic Charities of Idaho, Internal Revenue Service, AARP Tax-Aide, United Way of Treasure Valley, Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority, Home Federal, 2-1-1- Idaho CareLine, U.S. Bank, Easter Seals-Goodwill Northern Rock Mountain, the Hispanic Financial Education Coalition and the Americorps\* NCCC teams. The coalition brings together public and private sector entities with non-profit organizations to provide a holistic approach in building better economic conditions for members of communities.

The coalition plans to expand financial literacy classes and free tax preparation sites throughout Idaho for the 2006 and 2007 tax seasons.



**FREE TAX PREPARATION**—Marie Hoff, left, Catholic Charities of Idaho (CCI) executive director, and Marcia Munden, CCI volunteer services coordinator, were at the Jan. 14 kick-off at the Boise location for the Free Tax Preparation Program sponsored by the Coalition for Economic Improvement. CCI is a member of the coalition along with many other public and private agencies, banks and the Internal Revenue Service. Munden will help recruit CCI volunteers to prepare taxes. The program is also available at Karcher Mall, Nampa.