



Mayor's Office of Community Empowerment & Opportunity

1234 Market Street, 16th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: (215) 685-3600 • Fax: (215) 685-3601

**Shared Prosperity Roundtable
Increasing Participation in the Earned Income Tax Credit Program
January 20, 2017 (9:00 am – 11:00 am)
United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey
(1709 Benjamin Franklin Parkway)
#PhillyEITC**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mitchell Little, Executive Director, City of Philadelphia, Mayor's Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity

Vonetta Robinson, Impact Manager, United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey

2. Presentations

John Wancheck, Senior Advisor on EITC Policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities – “Prospects and Challenges for the EITC in 2017: Are Big Changes Imminent?”

Alan Butkovitz, Philadelphia City Controller, Office of the Controller – “Retirement Security for All Philadelphians”

3. Q & A (*and short break*)

4. Announcements on EITC Outreach Activities

Graham O'Neill, Administrator of Taxpayer Assistance Programs, City of Philadelphia, Department of Revenue

5. Roundtable Discussion Questions

(1) How can we build trust between low-income tax filers and VITA sites?

(2) What are strategies to increase awareness and understanding around EITC eligibility rules?

6. Report Out and Dismissal

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY OF PHILADELPHIA

CEO empowers individuals, families and neighborhoods to reach self-sufficiency...

Alan Butkovitz

In his third term as Philadelphia's chief fiscal watchdog, City Controller Alan Butkovitz remains focused on exposing waste, fraud and mismanagement throughout government – while making recommendations to do more with less and saving taxpayers' millions. His efforts, many unprecedented, have identified more than \$800 million in potential revenues and savings for the city. Under his leadership, the Controller's Office has been recognized nationally for many investigations and initiatives, including conducting one of country's most extensive investigations into charter school operations, and implementing the city's first employee withholding program to collect delinquent taxes, which generated almost \$4 million in collections from delinquent taxes owed.

As a member of the Philadelphia Pension Board, Mr. Butkovitz provides oversight of investment strategies and ensures fiscal stability of the City's \$11 billion pension fund. Prior to being elected as City Controller in 2005, Mr. Butkovitz served 15 years in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives where he acquired a reputation for independence, hard work, and innovative ideas. He was also widely praised for leading a three-year bipartisan investigation into violence in Philadelphia public schools, which led to creating the Office of the Safe School Advocate, the first of its kind in the nation with the authority to fight for victims of school violence.

Alan Butkovitz was born and raised in Philadelphia. He is a graduate of Overbrook High School, Temple University and Temple University School of Law. He lives in Northeast Philadelphia with his wife Theresa.

Graham O'Neill

Graham O'Neill is the Administrator of Taxpayer Assistance Programs for the City of Philadelphia, Department of Revenue. In this capacity, he manages the You Earned It Philly EITC awareness and Free Tax Prep program. Mr. O'Neill also works with City and community partners to increase participation in taxpayer assistance programs, including LOOP, OOPA, the Homestead Exemption, the Senior Citizen Tax Freeze, the Real Estate Tax Deferral Program and others. Mr. O'Neill has also worked to expand and streamline Philadelphia residents' access to public benefits in previous positions with the City of Philadelphia, Mayor's Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity, and at Benefits Data Trust.

John Wancheck

John Wancheck was the Coordinator of the Center on Budget and Policy Priority's Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach Campaign until 2014, transitioning then to be an advisor on the EITC and other refundable tax credit issues. Mr. Wancheck came to the Center in 1994, assisting state and local agencies and community groups to promote EITC outreach projects and conducting training to promote participation among all eligible workers. He previously worked as a community organizer, trainer, and public interest advocate for more than 20 years in Connecticut, Rhode Island, North Carolina, and Virginia. He also served as a field organizer for Families USA, organizing community groups on issues related to health care reform.