The program serviced over 135 returns during its first year and the number increased to over 740 returns last year, said Leona Ittleman, STCC dean of the School of Business and Information Technologies. As a result, the program, now in its fifth year at STCC, returned over $1,601,000 in refunds and savings to the surrounding community.

Because of relationships with various financial literacy initiatives, one of the advantages of filing taxes at STCC is that clients can be referred to additional state and federal resources as well as local community services. One of the program’s goals is to help students overcome economic barriers, continue with their education and move toward economic mobility.

While this program is open to the community at large, STCC students are especially encouraged to use this resource to have their taxes prepared,” Ms. Cummings said. “At STCC we want to fulfill the educational needs for our students, but we know they have many other issues and worries. We want to help improve their school-life balance. If you’re a student, contact us for an appointment and let us help you check another task off your list.”

Appointments are available Wednesdays through Fridays, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.