

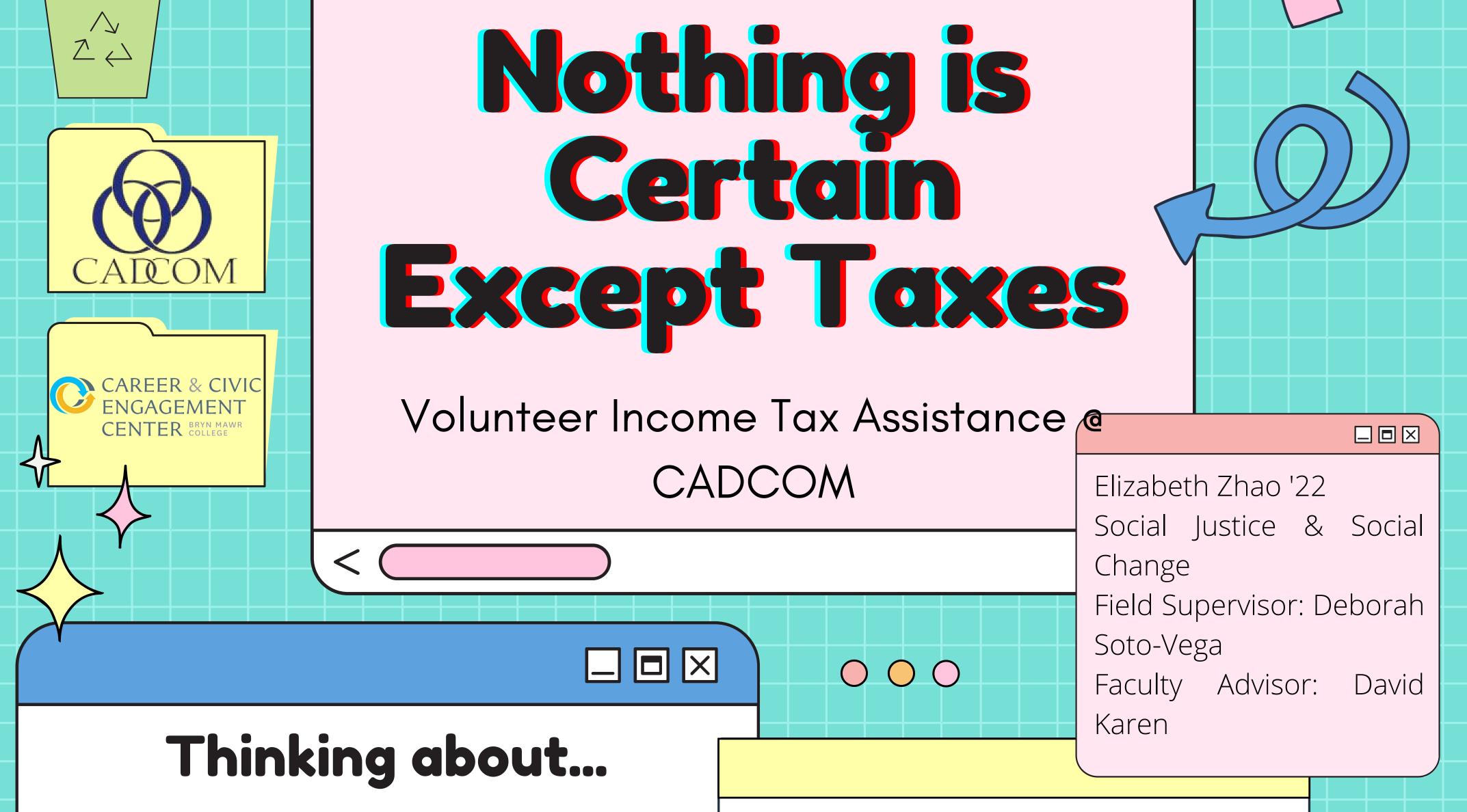
000

Field Site

I volunteered at the Community Action Development Commission (CADCOM) in Norristown, PA. CADCOM is the leading anti-poverty agency in Montgomery County. Among its programs are microenterprise classes, food resources, and income tax preparation.

Field Work

At CADCOM, I served as an IRS-certified tax preparer. My tasks included preparing the taxes of low-income taxpayers, answering volunteer questions, and handling drop-offs and pick-ups. I wanted to create a welcoming atmosphere where taxpayers felt empowered to understand their returns. In addition to tax preparation at CADCOM, I co-coordinated the Bryn Mawr volunteer side of the program.



+

公

Adaptability and problem solving during a pandemic

- more returns and less volunteers
- hosting on-campus pop-up sessions
- incentivizing volunteers

Incorporating social justice into the program

- Creating a teach-in on campus
- developing fall training sessions

Equity in tax preparation services

• why is filing for free on your own so hard?! What structure does a volunteer program need for volunteers to return?

> "This is the only way things are. You can't change nature." "Change *is* nature, Dad. The part that we can influence. And it starts when we decide."

Personal Growth

What does adaptability in a leadership role mean?

- confidence in making changes
- being open about needing support
- taking advantage of resources
- learning to pump gas

Is the work enough?

Ratatouille

"You tell me that it's a cruel world and we're all just running around in circles. I know that. I've been on this earth just as many days as you. When I choose to see the good side of things, I'm not being naive. It is strategic and necessary. It's how I've learned to survive everything....In another life, I would have really liked doing laundry and taxes with you."

Everything Everywhere All at Once