



Maryland CASH Academy

Build Your Financial IQ. One Class at a Time.
mdcashacademy.org

April 2015

National Financial Capability Month

April has been designated as [National Financial Capability Month](#) and Maryland has a lot to offer this month. [National Volunteer Week](#) and [Money Smart Week®](#) intersect in April, and we are grateful to our Volunteer Financial Educators who have signed up to teach [Money Smart Week® classes](#). Money Smart Week® is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances. This is achieved through the collaboration and coordinated effort of hundreds of organizations across the country. In Maryland, MSW classes will take place in the following counties: Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Calvert, Charles, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, and Montgomery, and Prince George's. MD CASH is offering giveaways which Educators can distribute to class participants during Money Smart Week classes. This is the last call for anyone wishing to have classes during MSW (April 18-25th) - please let us know by Friday, April 10th, so that we can help you promote it.

New Incentive for Passport to Prosperity

During the month of April the Maryland CASH Campaign will be introducing a new incentive to the Passport to Prosperity program. All Passport participants who earn 3 or more points in the month of April will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 giftcard to a grocery store or gas station of their choice. There will be a total of three winners in the month of April. To find out more about the Passport Program, please [click here](#).

Financial Education Summit

MD CASH, the Federal Reserve and the FDIC are hosting the 1st Maryland Financial Education Summit on April 24th, 2015 and we hope to see you there. Please join financial education practitioners, researchers and stakeholders to consider how we can help Maryland adults gain the skills and confidence to meet their financial goals. This Summit is designed to allow educators to share their best teaching tools, methods and curriculum with the group. If you have not already, [please register here](#).



Awardees with Robin McKinney, MD CASH and MaryAnn Hewitt, MCEE, photo credit Rick Lippenholz

SECOND ANNUAL FINANCIAL EDUCATION AND CAPABILITY AWARDS

Maryland CASH Campaign, Maryland Council on Economic Education (MCEE), and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) are pleased to announce the winners of the second annual Financial Education and Capability Awards. Awards were highlighted during the regular 8pm session of the Maryland General Assembly on March 30, 2015 in Annapolis. These awards highlight financial education achievements of public school teachers and Community Champions statewide.

The 2015 Financial Education and Capability Award Winners are:

- * Florence Falatko, 5th Grade Teacher, Cromwell Valley Elementary School (Baltimore County), Elementary School Teacher Award
- * Cheryl Crow, 8th Grade Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Specialist, Severna Park Middle School (Anne Arundel County), Middle School Teacher Award
- * Susan Baudoin, Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher, Parkdale High School (Prince Georges County), High School Teacher Award
- * Steven Fennington, Vice President of Business Development, Frederick County Bank, Community Champion Award who volunteers with [Interfaith Housing Alliance](#)

The Financial Education and Capability Awards Program highlights the dedication and success of public school teachers and community champions who deliver financial education. Financial education focuses on a range of financial management concepts and behaviors including budgeting, careers and income, credit, savings, financial decision-making, and understanding values and habits about money. The Maryland CASH Campaign, Maryland Council on Economic Education and MSDE thank OneMain Financial and The Woodside Foundation for their generous sponsorship of the \$1,000 financial awards.

Preparation is the Key to Success: A MyBudgetCoach Success Story

The MyBudgetCoach® financial coaching program has helped many people get closer to achieving financial stability. Here is one of our newest success stories presented by [Solutions for Progress](#).

Working for a Maryland nonprofit that does housing counseling, 61-year-old Pauline Hilliard has a stable job and a steady income. Like most Americans, Hilliard wanted to get better control of her finances and set a budget she could adhere to. She reached out to [Be Empower Community Services](#) (BECS), a MyBudgetCoach® (MyBC) service site in Capital Heights, MD, to learn how to manage her income, pay her bills, and ultimately, save for a once-in-a-lifetime vacation to Barbados.

In the 10 months working on her finances using the MyBC service, Pauline has built a collaborative relationship with her coach, Paulette Roseboro. For the first time ever, Pauline is able to sit down with her monthly expense and income tracking charts and feel confident that she is paying her bills in the best manner and saving money. According to Pauline, "knowing exactly what I'm doing and where my money is going is an eye-opening experience." The best part for Pauline? "It just takes one hour a month, come on!" [To read the whole story, click here.](#)

MD CASH Staff and Partner Highlights

Robin McKinney, Director & Co-Founder of Maryland CASH Campaign, is now on [CFED](#) (Corporation for Enterprise Development)'s Board of Directors. CFED has recently restructured the leadership of their mission-facing work, and Robin has joined them as one of their "new emerging leaders."

Sue Rogan, Director of Financial Education at Maryland CASH Campaign, has been selected to join the [Consumer Action](#) Advisory Board.

[Making Change](#), our partner in Howard County, was featured in a [Baltimore Sun article](#).

Get Involved in CFPB's New Youth Employment Opportunity

CFPB's Office of Financial Empowerment announced a new collaboration with the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration and the National League of Cities to help local municipal leaders integrate financial capability services into existing workforce programs that serve youth. Through this collaboration, they aim to help more youth develop financial knowledge and skills that will help them throughout their working lives.

They are looking for 25 municipalities that already have year-round youth employment programs to receive technical assistance from the CFPB. If your municipality fits the criteria (linked to in the blog post) please send them an email with your letter of interest addressing the criteria at empowerment@consumerfinance.gov with the subject line "Youth Financial Capability" by **April 20, 2015**. Take a look at the [blog post](#) to learn more.

Quick Hits

A new [Pew-commissioned survey](#) finds that Americans are more optimistic about their finances however, only half say their households are financially secure.

American Banker information on how [alternative data can determine a borrower's ability to repay](#), [10 key insights about the unbanked](#), and how [feeling powerful influences saving money](#).

CFPB reports that children from low- or-moderate-income families, who have a [savings account for college](#), however modest the amount, are three times more likely to go to college.

CFPB Front Page New York Times Article: ["Consumer Protection Agency Seeks Limits on](#)

[Payday Lenders"](#)

The [America Saves campaign](#) encourages consumers to sign a pledge, which helps them make a commitment to save, and to sign up on its website to receive texts with savings reminders and tips.

Educator ToolKit/Resources

The University of Maryland Extension is hosting the Personal Finance Seminar for Professionals on May13-15, 2015 at Doubletree Annapolis Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. To register and to learn more about the conference, [visit here](#).

Consumer Action is planning a new educational module on debt collection for use by community educators who work at nonprofit and community-based organizations. They'd like feedback from Educators- please take this [short survey](#) (it only takes only a couple minutes). Feel free to share this survey with your colleagues.

Neurosculpting Institute offers [4 tips to manage a financial crisis](#), starting inside your brain.

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