



## Maryland CASH Academy

Build Your Financial IQ. One Class at a Time.  
[mdcashacademy.org](http://mdcashacademy.org)

**November 2014**

### Quick Hits

The CFPB released a new report summarizing complaints from private student loan borrowers about difficulties faced when working with a lender to avoid default. Along with the report, they have a set of resources available for struggling student borrowers. Click [here](#) for more information.

The FTC has seen some truly abusive phone scams in the past. In a recently announced case, Centro Natural scored a hat trick. According to the FTC's complaint, Centro Natural violated the Telemarketing Sales Rule, including the rules of the Do Not Call Registry, the FTC Act, and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. Click [here](#) to read more about this scam.

### New Toolkit from Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to Help Clients

Your Money, Your Goals is a toolkit to help clients:

- Make spending decisions that can help them reach their goals
- Order and fix credit reports
- Avoid tricks and traps as they choose financial products
- Make decisions about repaying debts and taking on new debt
- Keep track of their income and bills
- Decide if they need a checking account and understand what they need to open one

Click [here](#) to get the toolkit now.

## **Economic Inclusion: Cross Sector Strategies that Promote the Financial Strength of Low-Income Families and Communities**

**Monday, Dec. 8, 2014. 8:30 am - 2:45 pm**

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Baltimore CASH Campaign and the Maryland CASH Campaign are joining to sponsor this conference to convene a multi-disciplinary audience to hear about economic issues affecting low- and moderate-income individuals, families and communities.

Kartik Athreya, Group Vice President, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, will discuss his recent research on the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC is the nation's largest income-support program. Senior staff of the FDIC's Office of Policy & Research will present data from the most recent National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households. In addition, Dave Beck, the Richmond Fed's Senior Vice President and Regional Executive will present an in-depth look at the new financial products being adopted by low-income consumers.

Leading practitioners from around Maryland, along with senior state officials, will discuss current efforts and highlight ways to improve the financial strength of low-wealth families and communities moving forward. Participants can expect a robust discussion about cross-sector strategies that contribute significantly to a more inclusive, equitable Maryland economy.

This event is free, but registration is required. [Click here](#) to register for this event. Please contact Ellen Janes, [ellen.janes@rich.frb.org](mailto:ellen.janes@rich.frb.org), with any questions or suggestions.

### **When**

Monday, December 8, 2014  
Registration: 8:30 am - 9:00 am  
Program: 9:00 am - 2:45 pm

### **Where**

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Baltimore Branch  
502 South Sharp Street  
Baltimore, MD

**Consumer Federation of America's  
27th Annual Financial Services Conference**  
December 4-5, 2014 at the Washington Plaza Hotel

Federal and state policy makers and regulators continue to address pressing banking, insurance,

investment, and real estate issues affecting consumers, after more than two decades of financial services deregulation and reregulation. To keep consumer advocates and educators informed about these issues, the Consumer Federation of America presents an annual conference on financial services, planned with the assistance of consumer groups and the financial services industry.

[Register Here](#)

Past Events:

- [Financial Services Conference 2013](#)
- [Financial Services Conference 2012](#)
- [Financial Services Conference 2011](#)

To sign-up for e-mail reminders about conferences and events, please [click here](#).

## Ready to Work Grant Announcement

We are very excited to announce that MD CASH Campaign was written into this grant to provide financial education and coaching to long-term unemployed individuals.

In January, President Obama issued a three-part call to action - to employers, to communities across the country, and to federal agencies - to help Americans who are ready to work find jobs, and to help more of the long-term unemployed get back to work. That included unveiling a set of "best practices" being taken by leading employers - including over 80 of the nation's largest companies - around recruiting and hiring the long-term unemployed, to remove some of the barriers that make it harder for them to navigate the hiring process.

Building on the President's call to action, the White House is providing an update on progress since January and additional steps-taken in conjunction with businesses, non-profit leaders, governors and mayors and federal agencies-to help ensure that Americans still looking for work have a fair shot, and American businesses benefit as a result. As more jobs are created, it is critical that Americans with skills, experience, and a desire to work have every opportunity to get back to work to maximize the full potential of our talent pool.

For more details, please read [The White House's Press Release](#).

## Madeleine Greene, named Financial Counselor of the Year by AFCPE!



The AFCPE (Association for Financial Counseling, Planning and Education) Board and Staff announced the 2014 Financial Counselor of the Year award will be given to Madeleine Greene, one of the first MD CASH Academy Educators and a tireless champion of financial education. Ms. Greene has more than 20 years of experience in personal finance. She is an Accredited Financial Counselor through AFCPE and carries a designation of being Certified in Family & Consumer Science. Ms. Greene asserts: "Financial literacy opens opportunities for individuals to get ahead." Among a host of partnerships, she works with CAFE (Coalition for the Advancement of Financial Education) Montgomery County team of financial educators and the Financial Readiness Initiative with the U.S. Department of Defense.

Each year AFCPE members nominate their fellow members, peers and colleagues who are doing great work in education, research and practice. This November AFCPE recognizes and celebrates the [2014 AFCPE Award Recipients](#) for their achievements.

## MD CASH Campaign Welcomes Hye Mi Ahn to the Team!

We are very happy to have Hye Mi Ahn as the newest member of MD CASH Campaign through the Volunteer Maryland AmeriCorps program. Her role as a Volunteer Maryland Coordinator is to strengthen and standardize the volunteer programs within MD CASH Campaign's coalition, so that they are more resilient and sustainable. With your collaboration, she will help implement a formal volunteer screening process, recruit more volunteers, develop program materials, develop community partnerships, and support the training of online financial coaches. Please contact her with your ideas and questions at [volunteer@mdcash.org](mailto:volunteer@mdcash.org) or call 443-692-9428.

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