



IMPACT 2019

Through Extension programs across the nation, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Educators provide a multitude of Educational opportunities to meet the needs of diverse audiences.

Financial Management

Most American families do not have the necessary skills to manage or stretch their financial resources. Extension Family and Consumer Sciences educators provide training and support in the areas of financial literacy, education, personal financial management, financial resource management, and economic well-being that address these issues.

Youth Lifelong Money Management Skills

Texas' *Welcome to the Real World* program offers activities that include career and money management information and provides the opportunity to explore careers and make lifestyle and spending choices similar to those faced by adults. The program reached 1,500 participants through 26 programs, and 68% increased knowledge of how to follow a spending plan.

"A better job will give you more money to help you in the future or have a savings account" – **Ohio** *Real Money Real World* Middle School Student Participant

Many youth are aware that it is important to save, but they don't know how to find money to save. **Virginia** provided education in the *Reality Store* for 9,924 attendees, and 94% increased awareness of making smart financial decisions, and 98% reported that having insurance and savings accounts help plan for emergencies. According to *Kids Market Place* participants in **Virginia**, 88% of 1,563 attendees learned about using money, 85% learned jobs pay differently, and 92% learned new ideas on money handling.

Financial Doing was delivered to 203 vocational students in the **Mississippi** Delta; 95% percent of 179

respondents reported the workshop improved their knowledge, and 86% planned to make changes in behavior.



Through *On My Own*, 28,000 **Tennessee** students explored their lifestyle goals and salary needed to reach those goals.

After participating in *Real Money Real World*, 54% of **Ohio** students indicated a positive change in seeing the importance of having spending and savings plans; 62% indicated a positive change in how important it is to have a spending plan.

Online Financial Skills

In **Georgia**, 387 rural taxpayers saved money using *Virtual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)*. It saved taxpayers an estimated \$116,100 in tax preparation and refund anticipation loan fees. Federal and state refunds totaled \$381,932 and \$68,969, respectively. They received a total earned income tax credit amount of \$105,434. **Idaho** Extension educators created and delivered an innovative educational app that increases personal finance knowledge and positive behaviors among youth participants. The *Learning to be an Adult - That's Life* simulation provided a real-life exercise to help bridge this gap with 208 attendees; in addition, 7,705 youth used the app.

Arkansas uses *Personal Finance* simulations that allow youth to experience managing month-to-month

Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart



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expenses and trying to make ends meet. Participants were asked to respond regarding their ability with several personal finance skills. After the training, 96% reported feeling somewhat capable in financial skills.

Basic Money Management

Programs in **West Virginia** assisted families with income, expenditures, and savings. *FDIC Money Smart* helped 221 families learn what to do when faced with abrupt drops in income due to layoffs, salary reduction, illness or divorce. In addition, 68 veterans, their families and CEOs members benefitted from *Make Your Money Matter*. **Delaware** educators increased the financial literacy, health insurance literacy and confidence of participants through *Improving Financial Capability*; of the 721 attending, 86% learned new information, skills, and prepared plans to adopt new practices.

Florida held *Personal Finance 101* programs for residents learning English. New immigrants want to build financial stability and understand topics such as Social Security, health insurance, federal income taxes, and building credit. After participation, 45% of respondents reduced credit card debt, 34% started or increased saving for retirement, 48% reduced spending on unnecessary expenses, 29% opened a savings account, and 42% developed a spending plan. In **Oklahoma** low-income adult participants gained valuable life skills for financial security. Evaluation data show an 89% improvement in those who have made a budget and can manage their finances. *Where Does Your Money Go?* was attended by 426 **Indiana** residents. Individuals reduced debt between sessions by \$83, saved \$100, and identified \$2,000 spending leaks within their annual budget.

Training Money Management Trainers

Maryland Extension trains human service providers using the *CFPB's Your Money, Your Goals Toolkit*. Six workshops with 85 participants had an estimated impact on 850 individuals; 99% indicated this would improve their ability to meet client needs. Timely information through the *Personal Finance Seminar for Professionals* to 105 attendees will reach more than 150,000 people; 99% of participants confirmed they will apply the acquired knowledge and skills. In **Illinois**, based on a needs-assessment survey and financial education core competencies, a hands-on, train-the-trainer program on the *All My Money: Change for the*

Better curriculum reached people who work with limited-resource audiences. The 77 participants enhanced their level of financial understanding using these materials. Through an annual professional development in-service, publishing a quarterly e-newsletter, hosting a website, and other activities, the **New York Family Economics and Resource Management Program** work team reached 30,000 people with 180 community partners.

"I was scared of losing my home... By creating a spending plan I found ways to save money. I was approved for help and saved my home of 34 years!" – **Michigan** Participant

Housing Skills

Michigan assisted 232 clients to prevent foreclosure; 97% of the clients saved their home, 15% brought their mortgage current, 7% modified to an affordable payment, 31% received financial assistance, 38% initiated a repayment plan, and 1 entered a forbearance. **Utah's** online *Homebuyer Education* program had 617 attendees; as a result of taking this course, on average, households received \$5,000 down payments from community grant programs and purchased a home. Sixty first-time **Florida** homebuyers learned the steps in the home buying process, how to care for and maintain a healthy home, and assess their financial readiness to purchase so they can make informed decisions, avoid pitfalls, and reduce foreclosure risk.

Seniors/Elders

In **Kansas**, 7,903 participants had their Medicare plans compared during *Open Enrollment*, saving a total of \$6,136,613. Outside of *Open Enrollment*, agents had contact with 8,316 individuals through Medicare classes and plan comparisons; total savings for those outside of *Open Enrollment* was \$3,786,938 through Medicare Part D Drug Help. *Legacy Planning* educational presentations in **Montana** reached 1,990 participants; 90% reported they were going to review their property ownership titles and beneficiary designations on their assets.

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