

Financial Education and Asset Building

Turning Partnerships into Opportunities

Webcast Series Knowledge Activities

Presented by
IRS - Wage and Investment Division
CARE/SPEC

Financial Education and Asset Building



Knowledge Activities



Creating Person-Centered, Community-Wide Systems to Foster Benefits Access and Economic Security

Marisa Scala-Foley and Julie McGee

SPEC Financial Education & Asset Building
Webcast

Knowledge Activities

August 18, 2010

What We Will Cover

- Who we are
- Why person-centeredness matters
- How we can help your efforts
 - Training and technical assistance
 - Promising practices
 - BenefitsCheckUp
 - Benefits Enrollment Centers (BECs)
- About our Mobile BEC

National Council on Aging

NCOA's Mission

**To improve the lives
of older Americans.**

Who We Are

**NCOA is a non-profit
service and
advocacy
organization based
in Washington, DC.**

NCOA Core
Values

Social and
Economic Justice

Respect and
Caring

Innovation

Integrity and
Excellence

National Council on Aging

What We Do

- NCOA is a National voice.
- NCOA develops creative solutions
- NCOA helps seniors live independently

About the Center

Mission

- Increase access to benefits
- Focus on several public benefits
- Emphasis on person-centered strategies

About the Center

Mission

- Increase access to benefits by:
 - Providing tools and resources
 - Generating and disseminating knowledge about best practices and cost-effective strategies for benefits outreach and enrollment

About the Center

Mission

- Focus on several public benefits
 - Medicare Part D Extra Help/Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)
 - Medicare Savings Programs (MSP)
 - Medicaid
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/Food Stamps
 - Energy assistance (LIHEAP)
 - State Pharmacy Assistance Programs (SPAP)

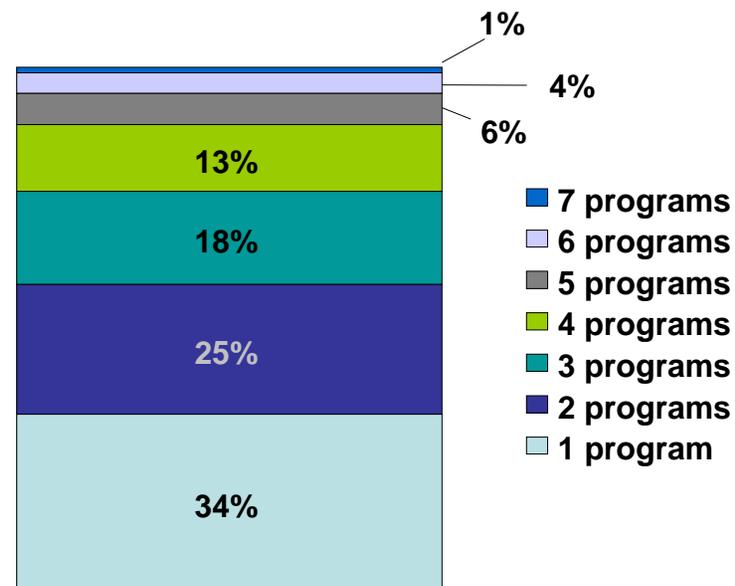
About the Center

Mission

- Our emphasis is on person-centered strategies – once you've found someone, helping them to apply for ALL of the benefits for which they are eligible.

Why Person-Centeredness?

Seniors Eligible for Seven Major Benefits Programs



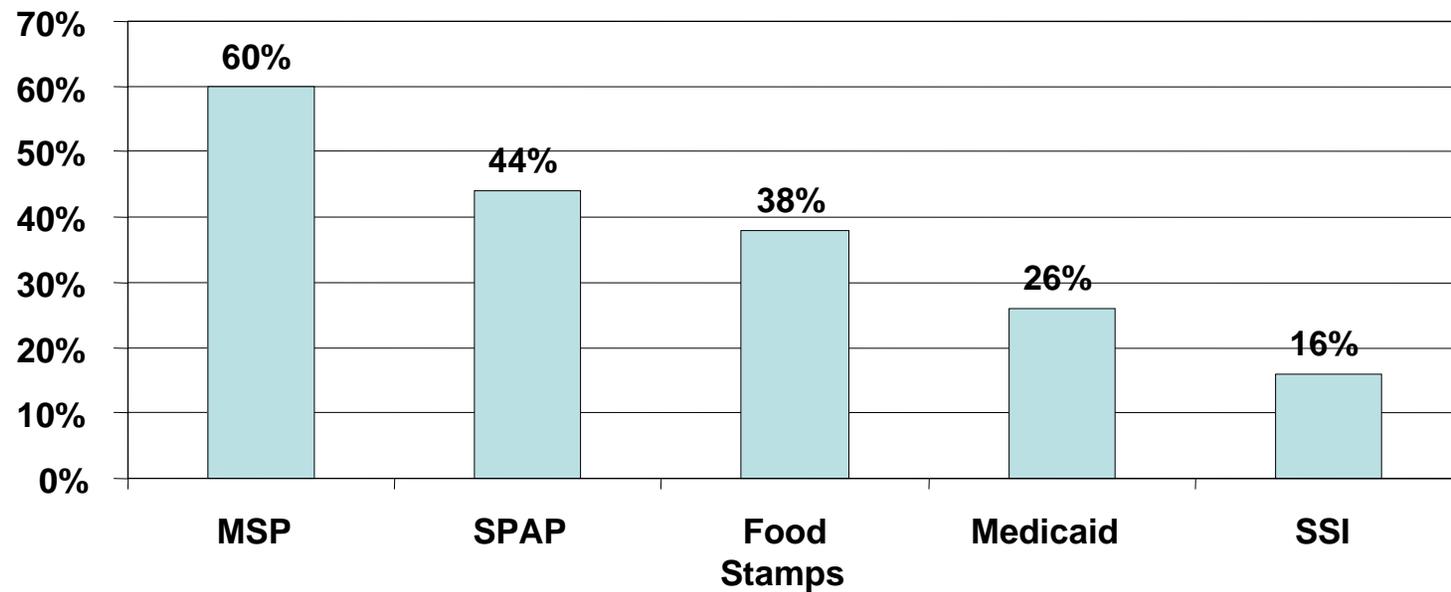
Note: The seven programs are LIS, MSP, SPAP, SSI, Medicaid, SNAP, and LIHEAP

N=56,051

Source: Analysis of Benefits Check-up data, 2008

And Even Further

Shadow screen results for 2007 LIS applicants:
eligibility for other programs



N = 12,065 seniors applying for LIS benefits using BenefitsCheckUp

Source: Analysis of BenefitsCheckUp data, 2008

About the Center

What We Do

- Training and technical assistance
- Clearinghouse on best practices and cost-effective methods
- Web-based screening and enrollment tools (www.BenefitsCheckUp.org)

About the Center

What We Do

- Data aggregation and analysis
- Fund and support Benefits Enrollment Centers
- Provide technical assistance and support to grantees

How We Can Help Your Efforts

Training and TA

- Training and technical assistance
 - Monthly trainings
 - Issue briefs/case studies
 - Samples database Individual TA
 - Conference presentations

How We Can Help Your Efforts

Promising Practices

- Online searchable clearinghouse
<http://www.centerforbenefits.org/clearinghouse.html>
 - Includes brief write-ups
 - promising practices

As of Wednesday, May 19, 2010 we have helped 2,490,306 people find over \$8.4 billion worth of the annual benefits they deserve.

Home Find Benefits About Us News Sponsors Donate Refer a Friend Organization Users



What People Are Saying...

"Thank you so very much for having this web site. I was really struggling to meet my financial obligations and still eat and buy my medicine. The information I have received from this site has certainly helped me."

Sponsor Spotlight



We apply science and our global resources to improve health and well-being at every stage of life.

[Learn More](#)

Find Benefits Programs...

Get all the benefits you deserve. Find and enroll in federal, state, local and private programs that help pay for prescription drugs, utility bills, meals, health care and other needs.

[Get Started](#)

Apply for Medicare Rx Extra Help...

If you are one of millions of people with Medicare who have limited income and resources, apply now for Extra Help through Medicare's Prescription Drug Coverage. At the same time, you can also start an application for the Medicare Savings Programs and find out if you qualify for other valuable benefits programs. **Even if you weren't eligible before, 2010 is the time to check again - some of the Extra Help rules have changed.**

[Get Started](#)

Need Help Paying for Food?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (the new name for the federal Food Stamp Program) helps low-income individuals and families buy the food they need for good health. Visit the SNAP Application Forms Service to find the program in your state, get an application and apply today!

[Get Started](#)

Get Eldercare Assistance

Caring for aging parents, elders, and loved ones is challenging. Caring.com provides the expert advice, practical information, easy-to-use tools, and person-to-person support you need to make the journey easier.

Our Sponsors

BenefitsCheckUp is sponsored by:



Interested in becoming a sponsor?

News

- NCOA Encourages Seniors to *Age Strong! Live Long!* During National Older Americans Month by Tapping Into Available Benefits
- National Council on Aging and AGIS Network, Inc. partner to streamline senior eligibility screening and program enrollment
- New Year's Resolution for Older Adults: Take Advantage of New Changes to Programs that Help with Medicare Costs

More news

Watch the Video!

See how BenefitsCheckUp helps seniors find benefits



www.BenefitsCheckUp.org

Benefits Screening
Tools

SNAP Map

Downloadable
Application Forms

Online Application
for Rx Extra Help

✓ Benefits Screening Tools

Screening questionnaires to help people learn about which government or private programs they may be eligible for to help pay for prescription drugs, health care, utilities, and other needs, based on their individual situation

Benefits Screening
Tools

SNAP Map

Downloadable
Application Forms

Online Application
for Rx Extra Help

✓ SNAP Map

Interactive Mapping feature to help consumers and organizations find information and application forms for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamps) in their state.

Benefits Screening
Tools

SNAP Map

Downloadable
Application Forms

Online Application
for Rx Extra Help

✓ Downloadable Application Forms

Application Forms and Fact Sheets for programs included in BenefitsCheckUp for those seeking additional information and/or who are ready to apply for programs

Benefits Screening
Tools

SNAP Map

Downloadable
Application Forms

Online Application
for Rx Extra Help

✓ Online Application for Rx Extra Help

Provide consumers and organizations with a user-friendly online LIS application that is electronically submitted to the Social Security Administration, while automatically screening for other key federal and state benefits



To date, nearly 2.5 million screenings have been completed using BenefitsCheckUp with a dollar value of benefits of over 8.5 billion



Connecting with our Benefit Enrollment Centers - BECs

- In 2009, BECs funded in 10 areas

Charged with:

- Using person-centered strategies
- Developing coordinated, community-wide, person-centered systems

Connecting with our BECs

- Filed nearly 104,000 applications
\$197,103,188 in annual benefits
- Hope to fund more in late 2010 / early 2011
- Contact information for BECs and other partners at:

[http://www.centerforbenefits.org/
partners.html](http://www.centerforbenefits.org/partners.html)

BECs

- South Alabama Regional Planning Commission (Mobile, AL)
- AgeOptions (Oak Park, IL)
- Green River Area Development District (Owensboro, KY)
- Maine SHIP, Office of Elderly Services (Augusta, ME)
- Washington County Commission on Aging Inc. (Hagerstown, MD)
- Elder Law of Michigan (Lansing, MI)
- Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services (Helena, MT)
- Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York (New York, NY)
- Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging (Cleveland, OH)
- Benefits Data Trust (Philadelphia, PA)

Benefit Enrollment Center Southern Alabama Regional Planning Commission



South Alabama Regional Planning Commission (SARPC) Area Agency on Aging

Serving 116,875 older
adults

60+ in Mobile, Baldwin
and
Escambia Counties



SARPC BEC

March 2009 to February 2010

- 211 agency events incorporated outreach information for BenefitsCheckUp service
- Six one-day large scale shared outreach BEC events with agency partners
- 13,671 people reached

SARPC BEC

March 2009 to February 2010

- 7,200 counseled on BCU service
- 5,513 received BCU screening
- 5,046 found eligible for at least one core or optional benefit
- \$5,063,674 total value of benefits

SARPC BEC Events



SARPC BEC

What Worked

- The right partner
- Cost effective outreach-reaching those with eligible populations
- The Road Show

SARPC BEC

What Worked

- The Road Show
 - Highly publicized one-day benefit enrollment center event in local communities
 - On-line screening at community site

SARPC BEC

What Worked

- The Road Show
 - Core and optional benefit partners on-site
 - Enrollment and application assistance on-site
 - Follow up, then follow up again!

SARPC – Partners

Core Benefits

- Social Security Administration - Low Income Subsidy and SSI
- Alabama Medicaid Agency, District Office-Medicare Savings Programs, Medicaid

SARPC – Partners

Core Benefits

- Community Action - LIHEAP utility assistance, weatherization
- Patient Assistance Programs - SeniorRx

SARPC – Partners

Core Benefits

- Department of Human Resources - SNAP, Simplified Application for the Elderly
- Property Tax Office
- Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program

SARPC – Partners

Optional Benefits

- Legal Counseling for the Elderly
- Charitable Pharmacy
- Veterans Affairs
- Charitable Dental Clinic
- Free Cellular Phone and Service
- Angel Food Ministries

RSVP Wrap-Up for 2010

Sites sponsored during filing season		5
Volunteers supporting sites		26
Returns		631
Refunds	Average	\$846
	Total	\$394,765
Direct Deposits		282

For More Information About
the Center

CenterforBenefits@NCOA.org

www.CenterforBenefits.org

**For More Information About
the SARPC BEC**

Julie McGee, AAA Director

jmcgee@sarpc.org

1.800.Ageline

1.800.243.5463

Family Economic Security Project

Benefits Specialist

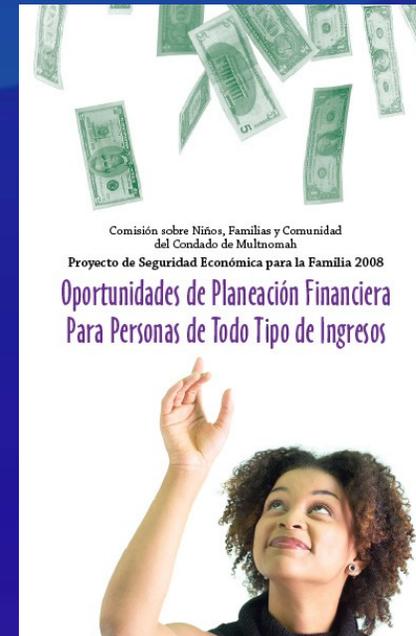
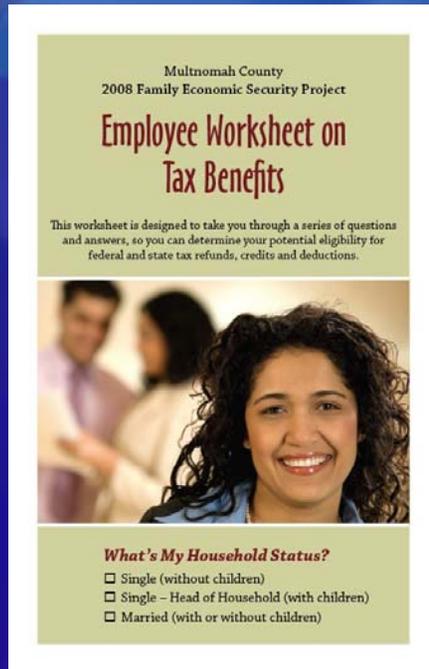
Janet Hawkins
FES Project Manager

Lindsey McBride
FES Project Coordinator

Commission on Children, Families & Community
Multnomah County, Oregon

Family Economic Security Project

Summer 2010



Commission on Children, Families & Community
Multnomah County, Oregon



Family Economic Security Project

Multnomah County, Oregon

CCFC
Project Management

IRS

- ✓ Presentations to Organizations
- ✓ Technical Assistance to Businesses
- ✓ Consultation on Materials

CASH Oregon

- ✓ Free Workplace Tax Assistance
- ✓ Free Tax Assistance at Comm. Site
- ✓ Contacts with Businesses
- ✓ Presentations to Organizations

“The Earned Income Tax Credit has emerged as America’s largest and most effective anti-poverty program.”

Anne E. Casey Foundation

Family Economic Security *Business Perspective*

Multnomah County
Family Economic Security Project

Help Your Employees
Cash in on Advance EITC
and Tax Benefits

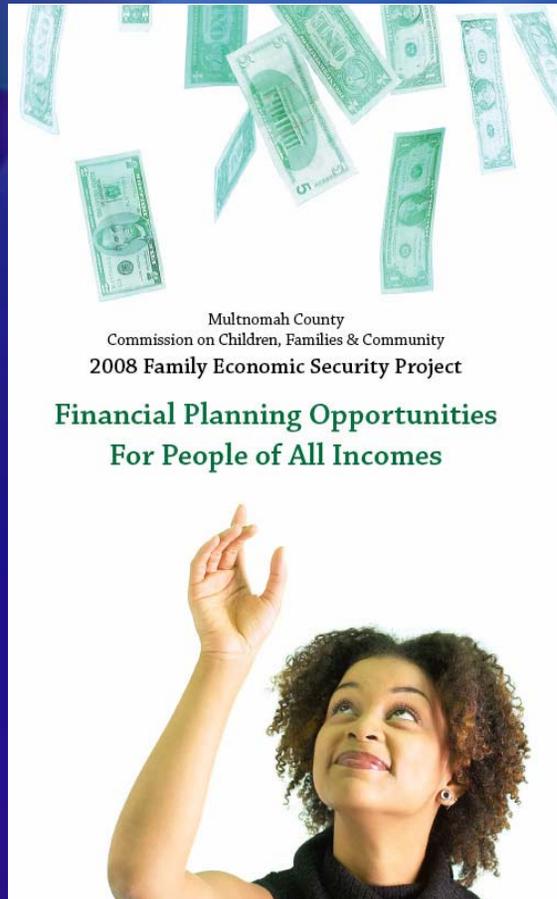


*"The Advance Earned Income
Tax Credit helps me take care
of my family."*

- "It was great to have experts with computers and answers so easily available. People who have a lot to juggle in life really benefit when important tasks like this are made easier for them."*

*Chris Bekemeier, Asst. Director
Our United Villages/Rebuilding Center*

Family Economic Security *Consumer Perspective*



- *“The Advance EITC helps me take care of my family.”*
 - *“I know that \$50 or \$60 a month isn’t a lot for some people, but it makes a big difference for my family.”*
 - *“Managing my money gives me a sense of pride.”*
- Focus Group Participants*

Family Economic Security Project Benefits

Business

- ✓ AEITC increases employee income without costs
- ✓ Free tax preparation for employees
- ✓ Financial education resources for employees
- ✓ Supports a stable workforce

Employees

- ✓ Increase in paychecks
- ✓ Free tax help saves \$150- \$350
- ✓ Avoid “Refund Anticipation Loans”
- ✓ Financial education resources

Project Design & Implementation

July – December 2007

- Best Practice Research
- Consultation with Business Owners, HR Professionals, Partner Agencies & Workforce Providers
- Consumer Focus Groups
- Developed Outreach & Informational Materials
- Conducted Presentations to Unions & Community Groups
- Contracted Services for Free Tax Preparation Assistance

TELL A FRIEND!

The IRS may owe you money!

You may get a refund even if you owe no taxes. Find out by having your taxes prepared for free by trained volunteers.

When you come in be sure to bring:

- ✓ Social Security or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number for every person on the return.
- ✓ Form W-2 from every employer.
- ✓ Other forms and receipts, such as 1099s from your bank.
- ✓ Child and dependent care information.
- ✓ Copies of last year's returns, if available.

FREE Tax Preparation!

You can find free tax preparation sites near you:

Phone: (503) 243-7765 (CASH Oregon)
1 (888) 227-7669 (AARP)
or 2-1-1

Online: www.cashoregon.org or
www.aarp.org/taxaide



CASH Oregon in partnership with AARP Tax-Aide and Multnomah County



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Project Implementation

July 2009 – June 2010

¡CUENTELE A UN AMIGO!

¡El IRS podría deberle el dinero!

Descubralo teniendo sus declaraciones preparadas gratuitamente por voluntarios capacitados.

Cuando venga, asegurese de traer:

- ✓ Número de Seguro Social o número de Identificación de Contribuyente Individual para cada persona en la declaración.
- ✓ Forma W-2 de cada empleador.
- ✓ Otras formas y recibos, como Formas 1099s de su banco.
- ✓ Información del cuidado de niños y dependientes.
- ✓ Copias de su declaración del año pasado si las tiene.

¡Preparación GRATUITA de Declaraciones de Impuestos!

Usted puede encontrar sitios de Asistencia Voluntaria al Contribuyente del Impuesto sobre el Ingreso cerca de usted:

Teléfono: (503) 243-7765 (CASH Oregon)
1 (888) 227-7669 (AARP)
o 2-1-1

En línea: www.cashoregon.org o
www.aarp.org/taxaide

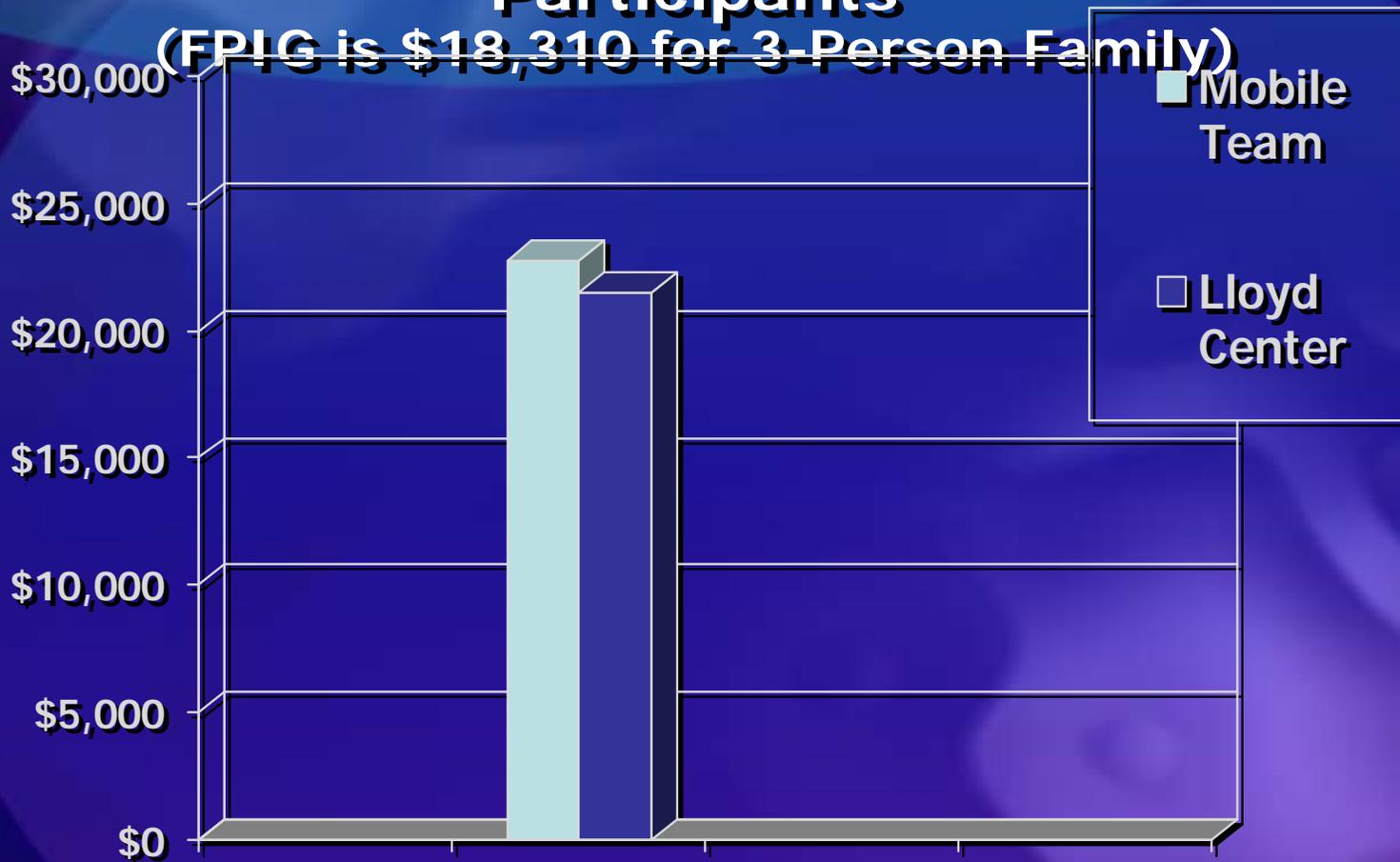


CASH Oregon en sociedad con AARP Tax-Aide y Multnomah County

- **766 Consumers** - Free tax preparation services
- **40 Employers** - Technical assistance to start AEITC Campaign
Employers included: Businesses & Non-profits
- **55 workplace and on-site** free tax preparation sessions for employees and consumers

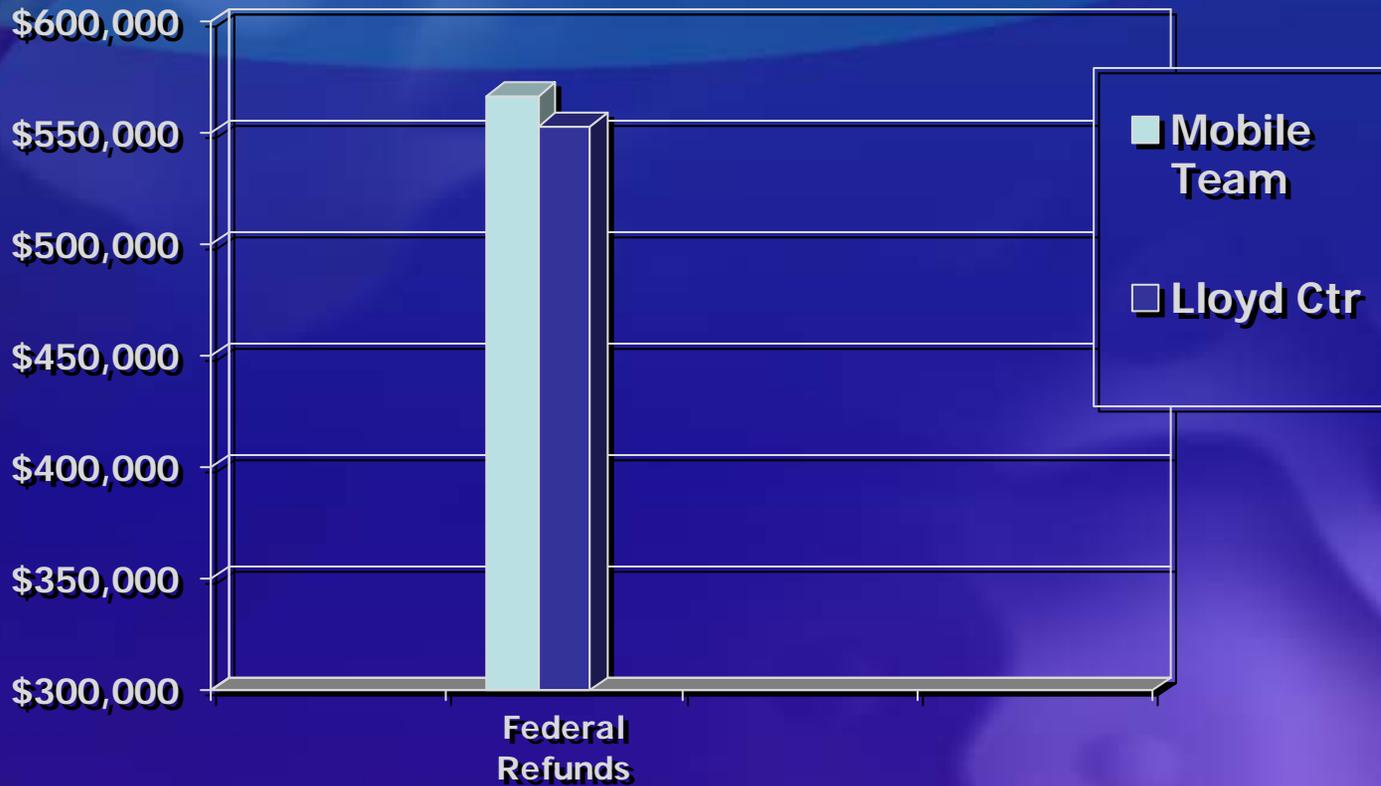


**FY 2010 FES Project
Reaching Our Target Population – 766
Consumers
Average Adjusted Gross Income of
Participants
(FPIG is \$18,310 for 3-Person Family)**



FY 2010 FES Project

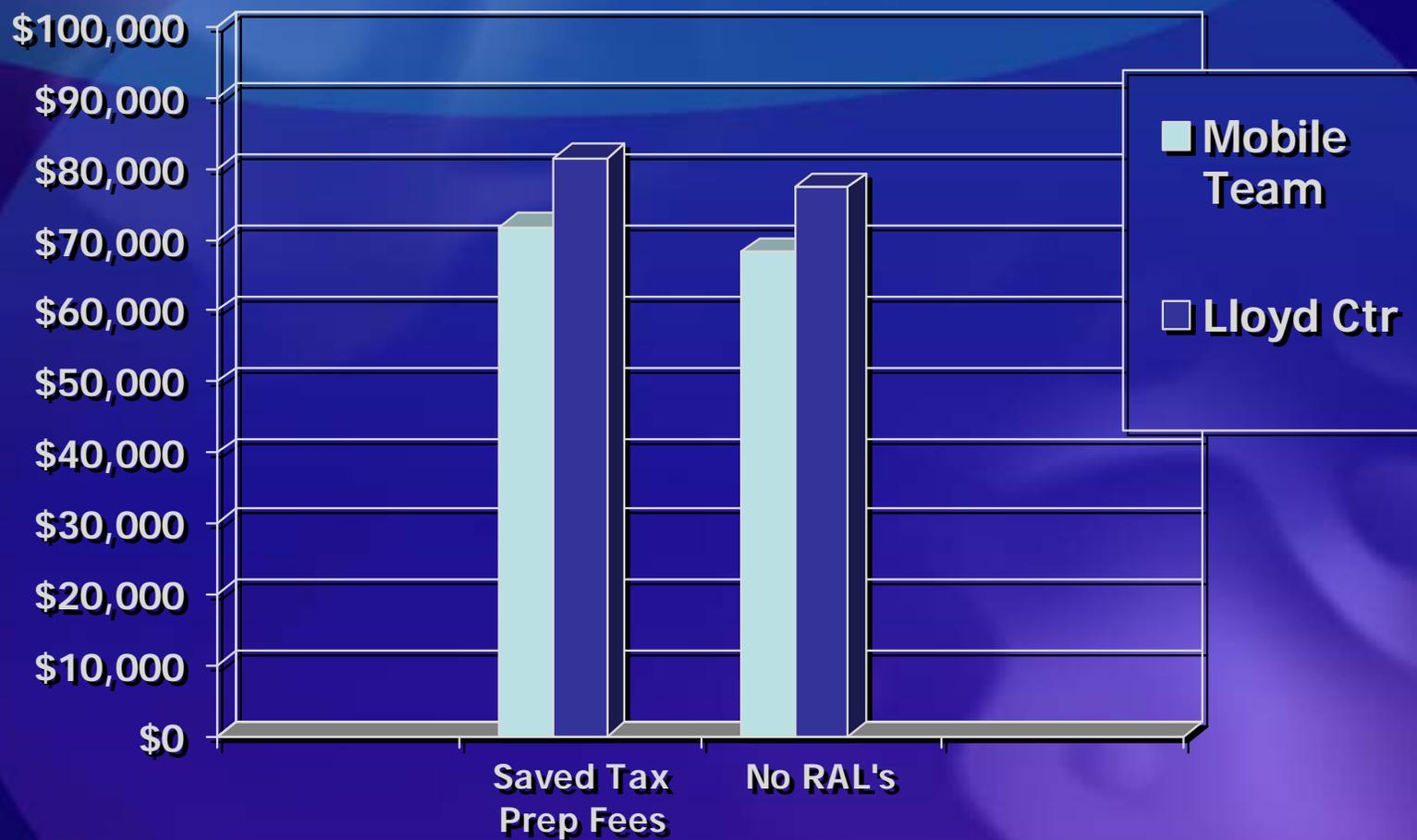
***Federal Refund Total - \$1,119,861**
(Average Refund = \$1,470/Household)



***State refund data is not available.**

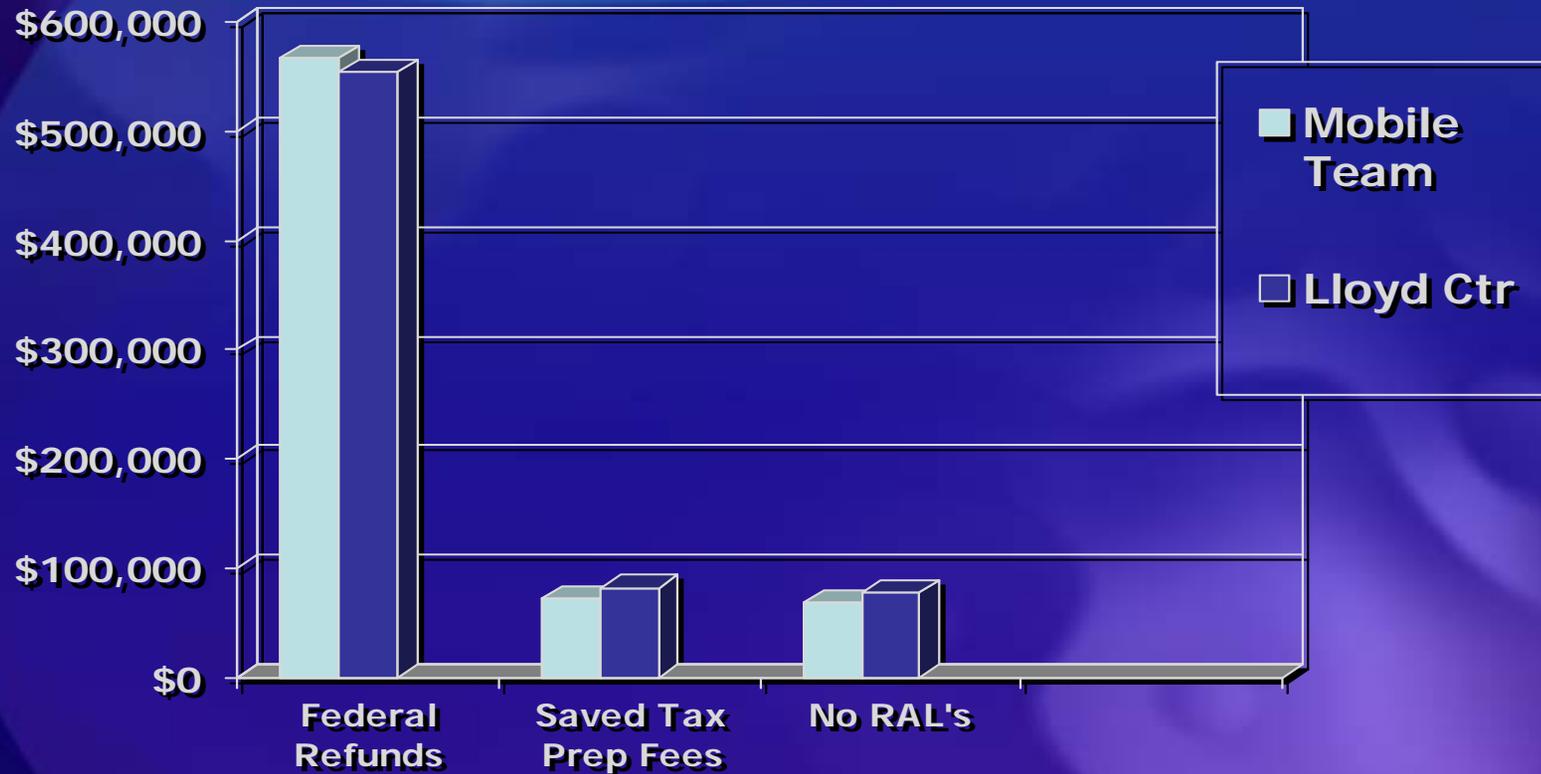
FY 2010 FES Project

Saved Tax Preparation Fees @ \$200/Consumer - \$153,200
No Refund Anticipation (RAL) Loans @ \$190/Consumer \$145,540



FY 2010 FES Project

Economic Impact – \$1,418,601
**Federal Refunds, Saved Tax Preparation Fees &
No Refund Anticipation (RAL) Loans**
1 to 20 Match of \$69,000 County Budget Investment

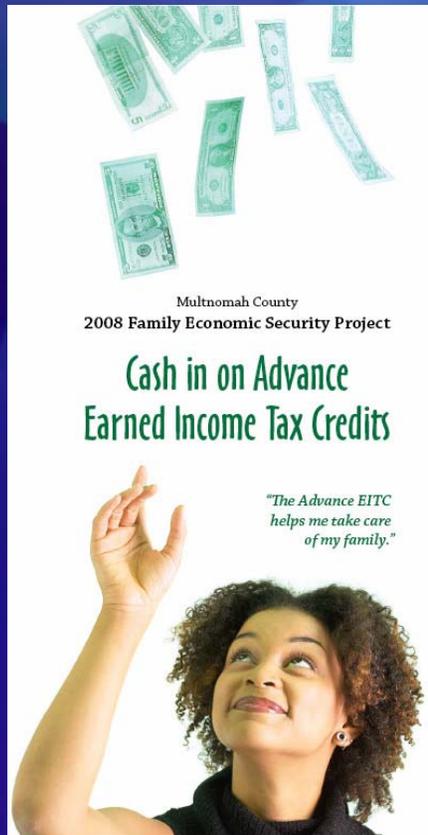


Project Implementation

August - September 2009

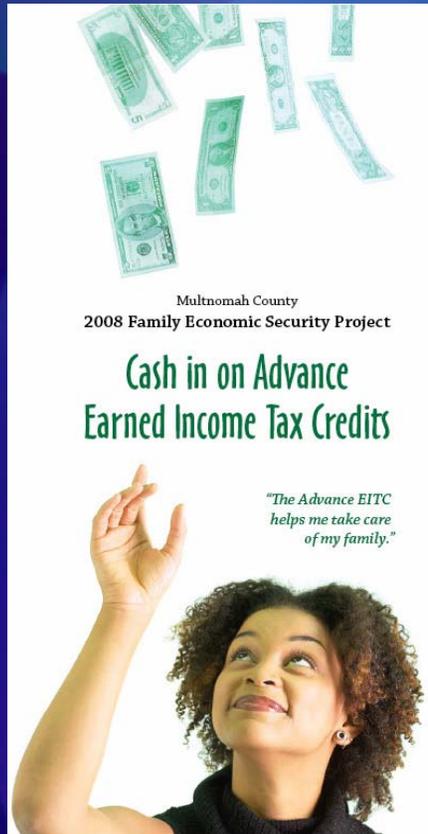
Evaluation Surveys with business owners and Human Resources staff:

- ✓ Mobile Team offered on-site tax preparation for employees
- ✓ Number of employees enrolled in Advance EITC
- ✓ Ideas for workplace financial education sessions
- ✓ Recommendations



Project Implementation

July 2009 - June 2010

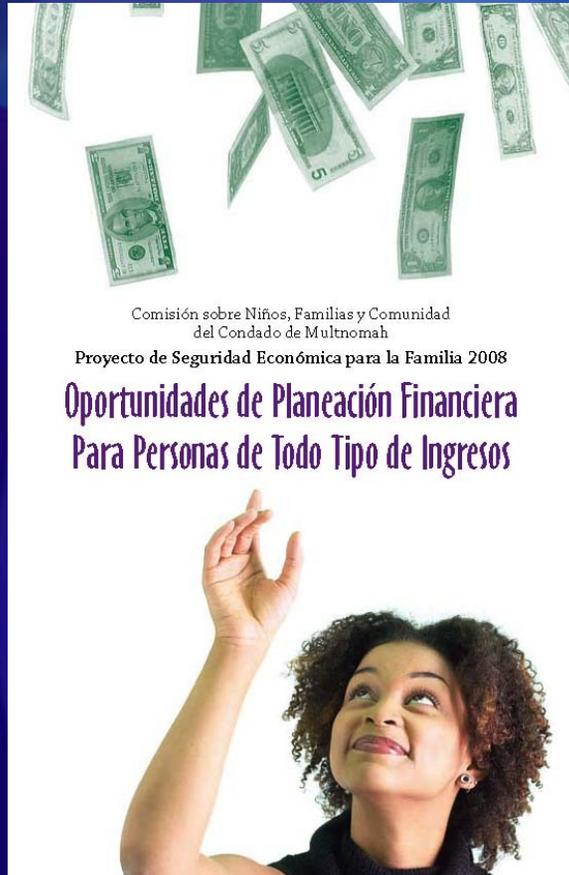


Conducted outreach to 2,000+ consumers at a variety of sites:

- ✓ Summer Food Programs
- ✓ Neighborhood Fairs
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Workforce & Employment Offices



Family Economic Security *Consumer Perspective*



“I need information on money management that is realistic for someone who is working, but not earning a lot. Someone like me.”

Focus Group Participant



Family Economic Security Financial Education Program Outline

Module 1: Handling Tax Benefits

**Module 2: Basics of Banking &
Credit**

**Module 3: Debt Management &
Savings**

Family Economic Security

Module 1:

Handling Tax Benefits

Maximize Your Paycheck

Understanding the Federal Form

- W-4
 - Filing status
 - Dependency Rules
 - W-4 Calculator – www.irs.gov

\$\$ Tax Tip: Oregon's Income Tax applies to all workers

Maximize Your Paycheck

Multnomah County
2008 Family Economic Security Project

Employee Worksheet on Tax Benefits

This worksheet is designed to take you through a series of questions and answers, so you can determine your potential eligibility for federal and state tax refunds, credits and deductions.



What's My Household Status?

- Single (without children)
- Single - Head of Household (with children)
- Married (with or without children)

- Working individuals and families may qualify state and federal tax credits that provide \$\$ income
- Income deductions are available for interest on college loans and retirement savings

Employee Worksheet on Tax Benefits

Tax Benefits for Employees

TAX CREDITS & DEDUCTIONS Federal (F)/State (S)	Individuals and Families	Families
<input type="checkbox"/> Savers Credit (F)	✓	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> IRAs (F)	✓	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Education Credits (F)	✓	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Interest on Student Loans (F)	✓	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> EITC (F, S) <i>Earned Income Tax Credit</i>	✓	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Advance EITC (F)		✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Tax Credit (F)		✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care Credit (F, S)		✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Working Family Credit (S)		✓

Note: Tax credits offer a dollar-for-dollar reduction of your taxes. A **refundable tax credit** permits a refund of the amount of the credit that exceeds the amount of tax owed. **In some instances, you may receive a \$\$ refund, even if your earned income has been very low and you actually pay no taxes.**

NOTES:

Definitions:

Adjusted Gross Income: All taxable income (wages, interest, unemployment, etc.) minus any allowable deductions (student loan interest, IRAs, etc.).

Modified Adjusted Gross Income: Adjusted gross income that may be adjusted by adding back certain tax items.

Dependent: A person, other than the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse, for whom an exemption can be claimed. To be your dependent, a person must be your qualifying child or qualifying relative.

Qualifying Child:

- The child must be related to you
- Must be under age 19 (or under age 24 if a full-time student)
- Must have lived with you for more than half the year
- The child must not have provided more than one-half of his or her support for the year
- If the child meets the rules to be a qualifying child of more than one person, you must be the person entitled to claim the exemption

Qualifying Relative:

- Lives with or is related to you
- Does not have \$3,400 or more of gross (total) income
- You must provide more than one-half the person's support
- Is neither your qualifying child nor the qualifying child of anyone else



Employee Worksheet on Tax Benefits

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

My budget is tight, so it's difficult to save. What's the advantage to creating a retirement savings plan?

IRS has special programs for working people who contribute to a savings plan or traditional Individual Retirement Account.



☐ Savers Credit (\$ Federal Tax Credit)

Applies to individuals with a filing status and income of:

- Single with up to \$26,000 adjusted gross income
- Head of Household with up to \$39,000 adjusted gross income
- Married Filing Jointly with up to \$52,000 adjusted gross income

To be eligible for the credit, taxpayers must be at least age 18, not a full-time student, and cannot be claimed as a dependent on another person's return. Taxpayers may be able to take a credit of up to \$1,000 (up to \$2,000 if filing jointly) if you make eligible contributions to a qualified IRA, 401(k) and certain other retirement plans.

Participation in your employer's savings plan may qualify.

☐ Individual Retirement Account (\$ Federal Income Deduction)

Taxpayers can contribute up to \$5,000* (single) or \$10,000 (married filing jointly), if the taxpayer and/or their spouse make contributions to a traditional IRA or Roth IRA on or before April 15th. If the taxpayer is age 50 or older, the contribution limits increase to \$6,000 and \$12,000 accordingly. Taxpayers cannot make IRA contributions that are greater than their compensation for the year. *2008 limits

Contributions to a traditional IRA may be tax deductible.

Are you attending college or a training program? Do you have a child in college? Education credits can help with costs.

The Hope and Lifetime Learning Credit programs cannot be claimed at the same time. Applies to individuals with a filing status and income of:

- Single or Head of Household with up to \$57,000 of modified adjusted gross income
- Married Filing Jointly with up to \$114,000 modified adjusted gross income

☐ Hope Credit (\$ Federal Tax Credit)

Credit applies to students enrolled in the first two years of post-secondary education. Student can be either the taxpayer or dependent of the taxpayer.

☐ Lifetime Learning Credit (\$ Federal Tax Credit)

Applies to undergraduate, graduate or professional degree courses. Student can be either the taxpayer or dependent of taxpayer.

Are you paying interest on a loan you took out for your own or your child's higher education?

☐ Interest on Student Loans (\$ Federal Income Deduction)

You may be able to deduct up to \$2,500 or the interest paid (whichever is less) on a qualifying student loan for higher education.

- Single or Head of Household with up to \$70,000 of modified adjusted gross income
- Married Filing Jointly with up to \$140,000 of modified adjusted gross income

I'm just getting started with a new job, so I'm not earning a lot. Are there any programs that can help?

☐ Earned Income Tax Credit (\$ Federal Tax Credit)

The Earned Income Credit (EIC) is a refundable tax credit for low- and moderate-income working individuals and families. The credit reduces the amount of federal tax owed and can result in a **refund**.

You may qualify if your income is less than:

- \$12,880 (\$15,880 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children;
- \$33,995 (\$36,995 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child;
- \$38,646 (\$41,646 married filing jointly) with two or more qualifying children.

☐ Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit (\$ State Tax Credit)

The Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit is a refundable tax credit available to families or individuals, who are able to claim the federal EITC. It is 6% of the federal credit.

I'm a parent with children. Are there any other tax credits for families with children?

☐ Child Tax Credit (\$ Federal Credit)

The Child Tax Credit is for those who have a "qualifying child" under the age of 17. It can be as much as \$1,000 per child, depending on the family's income.

- Single or Head of Household with up to \$65,000 yearly income
- Married Filing Jointly with up to \$135,000 yearly income



FAMILIES

I would like to increase my take-home pay for my family. Is there any way to increase my income using tax credits?

☐ Advance Earned Income Tax Credit (\$ Federal Tax Credit)

Working families with children can receive part of their federal tax credit as an **advance in their paycheck** throughout the year, instead of waiting until they file their taxes. Up to \$1,750 per year or \$145/month can be paid to the worker. The income limits shown in the Earned Income Tax Credit section apply and the taxpayer must have a "qualifying child" in their home. In order to participate, the worker must complete a Form W-5 and submit it to their employer.

I'm a working parent with children. Can I get any tax credits for my work-related child care expenses?

☐ Child and Dependent Care Credit (\$ Federal Tax Credit)

The Child and Dependent Care Credit is available to taxpayers who pay child or dependent care expenses in order to work or look for work. In most cases if filing jointly, both spouses must have earned income for the year. The credit is based on:

- Qualifying child or children under 13 or qualifying dependent(s)
- Qualifying child care expenses
- Adjusted Gross Income

The size of the credit depends on income. The taxpayer(s) may receive a credit of up to 35% of their out-of-pocket expenses for child or dependent care.



☐ Oregon Working Family Child Care Credit (\$ State Tax Credit)

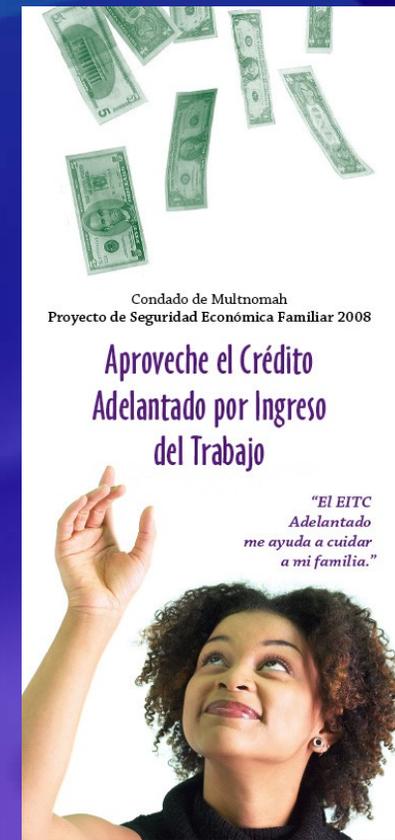
The Oregon Working Family Child Care Credit is a refundable tax credit for working families with child care expenses. The credit is based on:

- Qualifying child care expenses
- The number of people in your household
- Your federal adjusted gross income

The size of the credit depends on family size and income. It may provide the family with up to a 40% credit on their out-of-pocket expenses for child care.

Advance Earned Income Tax Credit

- The Advance EITC allows working families to receive part of their federal tax credit in their paycheck, instead of waiting until they file their tax returns
- Taxpayers collect the remainder of their EITC when they file taxes
- Complete the **Federal Form W-5** and submit it to your employer



Advance Earned Income Tax Credit

- Parents with Children in Household
- Earn from \$8.40 – \$23 an hour
- Up to **\$1,826** of tax credits during the year
- Up to **\$150** a month in additional income

\$\$ Tax Tip: Review the “Cash in on Advance Earned Income Credits” flyer

Free Tax Preparation Assistance “Mobile Team”

- CASH Oregon and AARP Tax Aide offer services at businesses, colleges, community sites
- IRS trained and certified preparers complete tax forms, identify tax credit eligibility, and electronically file taxes for you
- Evening and weekend hours available at many sites
- Electronic refunds available in 2-3 weeks

\$\$ Tax Tip: Review the “Tell a Friend” card

TELL A FRIEND!

The IRS may owe you money!

You may get a refund even if you owe no taxes. Find out by having your taxes prepared for free by trained volunteers.

When you come in be sure to bring:

- ✓ Social Security or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number for every person on the return.
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FREE Tax Preparation!

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1 (888) 227-7669 (AARP)
or 2-1-1

Online: www.cashoregon.org or
www.aarp.org/taxaide



CASH Oregon in partnership with AARP Tax-Aide and Multnomah County

Paid Tax Preparation Assistance

- Tax preparation fees - **\$150 - \$300**
- “Refund anticipation loans” -cost an average of **\$190** for a **2-3 day** loan

Total Tax Refund Due = **\$1,500**
Minus Prep Fee = - **\$300**
Minus Refund Loan = - **\$190**
Remaining Tax Refund = **\$1,010**
Costs = **\$490**

Paid Tax Preparation Assistance: How Much Work?



40 hours of work @ \$12.50/hr. = \$500

What's Ahead for 2010

- **Financial Education Program** - 16 workplace financial education sessions
- **60 employers** - technical assistance to start AEITC Campaign
- **300 employees** - sign up for AEITC
- **1000 consumers** - workplace tax preparation



What's Ahead for 2010

- **Outreach to business** associations, culturally specific organizations, and community groups
- **Outreach to consumers** – 3000 contacts at community events and agencies



Family Economic Security Project

To Learn More:

www.ourcommission.org/fes

Contact Program Staff:

(503) 988-3707

**Multnomah County, Oregon
Commission on Children, Families & Community**



Family Economic Security Project

Thank You!

Commission on Children, Families & Community



Prosperity Campaign

Maureen Quinlan
President, United Way of Marion County

IRS - SPEC Financial Education and Asset Building Webinar
Series

August 18, 2010

Education, Income and Health

- **Focusing on Education, Income and Health**
- **Goal: create long-lasting changes by addressing the underlying causes of problems.**
- **UWMC's Prosperity Campaign is focused on the Income area.**

Why United Way?

- Education, *Income* & Health
- Positioned well in the community: Contacts with community leaders, CEOs, the workplace and agencies
- Focus on the most critical needs equals financial stability
- Ability to convene and collaborate

5 Components of the Prosperity Campaign:

1. Manage a VITA program (since '09)
2. Distribute free FamilyWize prescription drug cards
3. Bank on Marion
4. Offer free personal budgeting workshops utilizing FDIC's Money Smart curriculum
5. Promote EITC

EITC & VITA

In 2009 with only 2 volunteers:

- 211 tax returns E-filed
- Saved more than \$31,000 in filing fees
- Over \$194,000 in returned federal tax dollars claimed

EITC & VITA

In 2010 with expansion:

- 829 returns (779 E-filed) – An increase of 379%
- Over \$444,000 in EITC claimed – An increase of 1085%
- \$350,000 saved in filing fees
- Over \$1.2 million in returned federal tax dollars claimed

FamilyWize Discount Prescription Card



- Over 962 local UW's are promoting
- Cards & other materials are provided free through FamilyWize
- Promoted: workplaces, agencies, at VITA locations, workshops, community expos and printed on campaign pledge card

FamilyWize Discount Prescription Card



- Saved \$163,319 in Marion County since 2008
- Average monthly savings of 35% or \$17.93
- Average county-wide monthly savings: \$15,000
- Since 2007, national savings is over \$123,000,000
- www.familywize.com



Bank on Marion



- Social marketing campaign focused on the unbanked or under banked
- Start date – June 19, 2010
- Promotes the importance of having a bank or credit union account

Bank on Marion



- Addresses those spending on payday lending or cash-checking fees
- 12 participating banks sponsoring \$250 each to pay for marketing materials
- www.bankonmarion.org

Money Smart Budgeting Workshops

- Recruit and train volunteers to facilitate FDIC's curriculum Money Smart.
- Also includes Wachovia/A Wells Fargo Company's new online program Hands on Banking.
- Advertise with companies, agencies, high schools, churches and community groups

Money Smart Curriculum

- 10 Modules
- Available in Spanish, CDs in many languages
- Most popular:
 - *Money Matters*
 - *Pay Yourself First*
 - *Bank On It*
 - *Check It Out*

Money Smart Results to Date

- Over 800 participants
- Evaluations given before and after each workshop.
- Working now with students from Florida State University to create a more qualitative survey to be given 1 month and then 3 months after completing the workshop.

How it Relates to Other Components

- EITC – Savings, budgeting
- VITA – Savings, checking accounts
- FamilyWize – Savings, budgeting
- Bank On – A prerequisite for some to open a “second chance” bank account

Essential Partners

- Volunteers! (and staff to manage)
- FDIC
- Federal Reserve Bank
- IRS

Essential Partners

- Local financial institutions
- Sponsorships – participant workbooks, marketing, etc.
- Connection with a coalition of prosperity campaigns (Florida Prosperity Partnership)

So You Have No Budget.....

- Volunteers, volunteers, volunteers!
- Sponsorships – For materials
- Use social media for volunteer recruitment and general advertising
- Local restaurants to sponsor recognition luncheons for volunteers

Contact Information

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(352) 732-9696



Financial Education and Asset Building



Knowledge Activities



Questions?
Please call
1-888-674-0224

FEAB Webcast
Knowledge Activities

For additional information
please email

FinancialEducation@irs.gov



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